

FY16-20 CIP Survey Report

Prepared 02-16-05

- CIP survey was opened for public input from January 12- 25th with 875 respondents. The following is a summary of the results and will be posted to City website (www.fallschurchva.gov/CIP). Survey highlights:

- *Outreach efforts:*

- Email notification distribution, minimum of twice, by the Falls Church Chamber, League of Women Voters and Village Preservation and Improvement Society
- Posted to website January 12th; most responses (525) came in on January 13, 14 and 15
- Twitter posts seven times on January 14, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24; Facebook postings on January 13 and 23
- eFocus article on January 22 (survey text finalization missed first January edition)
- City News Release issued on January 14
- Print versions of the on-line survey provided at the Library and Community Center (2 submitted at Library location)
- Media Coverage
 - Falls Church News Press- January 14 on-line, January 15 edition on page 9, January 22 edition on page 9 & 19
 - Falls Church Times- January 14 with 7 comments
 - Falls Church Patch- January 14
- **SURVEY ANALYSIS FOLLOWS BELOW:**

- *Demographic Summary:*

Key Questions Respondent Breakdown	Percentage Responses and Comparisons*
875 respondents (some questions skipped; 20 aren't sure, don't live or work in the City)	7% of total population (12,731) 9% of over 18 population (9,526)
320 open-ended comments	37% of responses
810 respondents live/work in the City (of the 810, 630 live only/ 180 live and work)	92.6% of responses 6% of total population (12,731)
180 respondents live and work in the City	21% of responses
28 respondents work in the City	3.26% of 858 responses .02% of workers (11,500 employees; including 758 City/School permanent salaried employees)
585 have FCCPS school students (2,455 FCCPS students, Dec 2014/ not households #)	70.7% of 827 responses 32.8% of City households (5101) have children under 18 years

*based on 2010 Census, 2009- 2013 American Community Survey, COG projections and commercial/retail databases

Observations:

- Largest City survey response to date (doubled the R&P Comprehensive Plan Chapter update); provides good informal perspective and input as one tool for developing the FY2016-2020 CIP
- City residents were the predominant participants

- City residents with students in FCCPS response rate is proportionally higher than the overall households with children under 18
- Employees are under represented in the results but when combined with those who live and work category then nears 25% of the respondents

○ *Question 1 Project Prioritization Analysis:*

Ranking: Highest- Lowest	Project Categories	Score
1	School Facilities	6.67
2	Park Facilities	5.95
3	Pedestrian Facilities	5.86
4	Utilities	5.26
5	Roadways	5.23
6	Business Area Investments	5.16
7	Government Facilities	4.71
8	Cyclist Facilities	3.42
9	Transit	2.75

Observations:

- Survey Monkey data analysis converts qualitative data into quantitative scores so scores must be considered carefully; see staff analysis later in this report
- Score generally align with normal bell curve distribution
 - Score spread between first and last ranking is 3.92 points
 - Score spread for ranking 2-6 is .79 points, less than one point
- Median score is 3.92 points and average score is 5 points
- School Facilities ranking as first aligns with survey response rate of 70.7% with students in City schools
- General Government Facilities ranking aligns with the non-student households and work respondents
- Represents respondents project priorities, without regard to funding and costs

○ *Question 2 Project timing and funding priorities*

Ranking: Highest- Lowest	Project Categories	Score
1	School Facilities	8.43
2	Cyclist Facilities	8.42
3	Business Area Investments	8.40
4	Park Facilities	8.39
5	Pedestrian Facilities	8.39
6	Transit	8.38
7	Utilities	8.36
8	Government Facilities	8.36
9	Roadways	8.26

Observations:

- Survey Monkey data analysis converts qualitative data into quantitative scores so scores must be considered carefully; see staff analysis later in this report
 - Question 2 responses were not distributed on a normal bell curve
 - scores differential was only .14 points
 - respondents did indicate what was most important to them in question #1 but the question #2 results indicate an overall desire to delay and/or not increase the local tax rate related to capital infrastructure
 - no category selection had 70-100% ranking; majority in the 20-30% reference
 - Many of respondents selected the category “I do not support a tax rate increase, even if it means the project would be delayed 10 years or more” but not a majority
 - Schools facility is the only category (50%) where there is a majority that selected “I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering within 5 years”, ranked first which aligns with survey respondent break down
 - Five categories received scores between 8.36 to 8.39 resulting in a local tax increase apparent “tie”
 - No preference always had the lowest selected response, consistent with expected survey results
 - Transportation multi-modal responses differ from the Comprehensive Plan Mobility for All Modes survey indicating that this survey tapped a different respondent pool as well as its policy focus rather than funding/timing
 - Park responses differ from the Comprehensive Plan Recreation and Parks survey indicating that this survey tapped a different respondent pool as well as its policy focus rather than funding/timing
- *Question 3 Open-ended Comments:* 320 submissions were received and are included as Attachment 1 along with counts of key preferences; note these are broad categorizations so each comment should be considered in detail and in the author’s intended content

Several themes can be identified upon reviewing the comments which are:

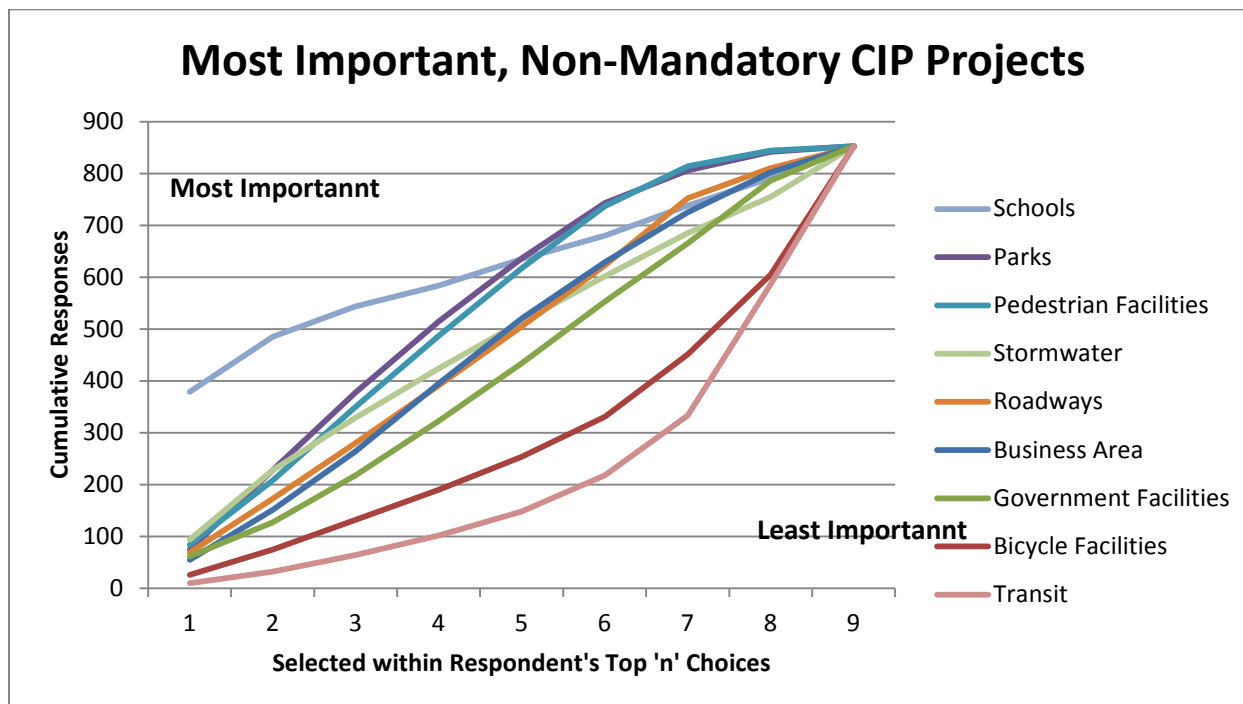
- Respondents found it hard to prioritize
- Strong preference for no tax increases
- The City should fund CIP by decreasing operating expenses
- Significant support for school facilities and synthetic turf field, consistent with the participant ratio of respondents with students in FCCPS
- Desire for balance between school and infrastructure needs
- Significant desire to have utility lines undergrounded
- Significant support for the library, parks, pool, roads, sidewalks and walkable community that is a special place
- City should pursue private public partnerships and economic development to pay for critical services without increasing taxes
- Recommendations for budget process and survey format improvements

Analysis:

Question 1: Of the non-mandatory CIP projects listed, please rank them in order of most important (1) to least important (9).

The chart below displays survey responses through cumulative counts. If a project type receives more first and second place votes than other features, then its curve rises faster. In contrast, the curve for a project type that receives few first or second place votes sinks below the other curves.

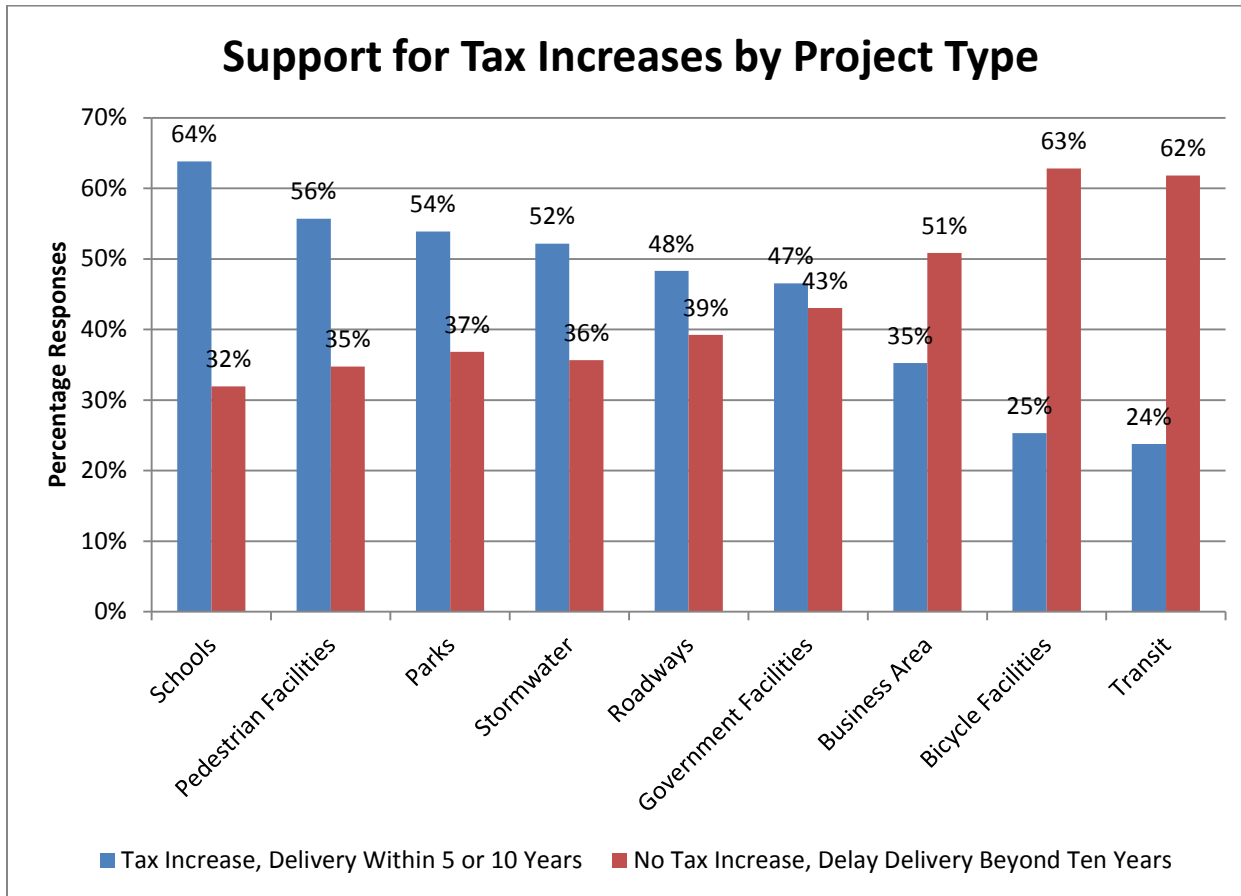
Respondents showed a strong preference for school facilities and a low preference for bicycle facilities and transit spending. Among other project types, respondents showed a slight preference for parks, pedestrian facilities, and stormwater facilities.



Question 2: For each project, please specify your preference for timeline and funding.

The chart below contrasts for each project type the percentage of respondents that indicated a preference for raising taxes in order to deliver the project within 5 to 10 years against the percentage of respondents that indicated a preference for not raising taxes even if that means delaying project delivery beyond 10 years.

No project type received unanimous support for raising taxes. However, some project types did receive very strong support. Tax increases for school facilities were favored by a margin of 2 to 1. Pedestrian facilities, parks, stormwater facilities, and roadways received strong support. Government facilities received a mixed response. Business area projects, bicycle facilities, and transit all received more responses in favor of delay as opposed to tax increases.



Attachments:

1. Question 3 Open-ended comments
2. Survey Form
3. Data Analysis
4. Survey Monkey Raw Data



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

300 Park Avenue, Suite 303 East
Falls Church, VA 22046

Capital Infrastructure Needs Survey (CIP Survey)

Please complete by January 25, 2015.

Return to Office of Communications, City Hall, 300 Park Ave., Suite 303 East,
or to boxes in the Community Center and Library.

Thank you for taking this short survey; it should take you less than 10 minutes to complete. There are three questions about capital projects, and a few demographic questions that ask if you are a City resident, have children in the public schools, etc.

This survey will help staff gather community input on the type and priority of capital infrastructure projects to fund in the upcoming budget, Fiscal Year 2016 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016). Survey results will be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council during budget meetings from February through April 2015 and posted to the website, www.fallschurchva.gov/CIP.

About the Capital Improvements Program (CIP)

The five year CIP identifies capital infrastructure needs of the community and indicates how these needs will be funded over the five year period. In general, only projects that cost more than \$150,000 and have a useful life in excess of 5 to 10 years qualify for funding in the CIP. (Two examples of average cost: \$500,000 to \$4 million for roads and curb and gutter; \$8 million to \$15 million for facility renovations.) The CIP is updated annually and is subject to change with each update.

CIP Projects Versus Maintenance Projects

CIP projects (see examples below) generally require significant engineering design and construction, whereas maintenance projects (like road paving, crosswalk painting, sidewalk section replacement, and landscaping) require routine upkeep every one to five years.

What is Capital Infrastructure?

This term refers to the built environment that makes the City of Falls Church safe, healthy, engaging, and beautiful and helps fulfill the City Council's vision of "A Special Place." Projects can be mandatory, like police emergency radios, but others build a quality community. Some construction project examples include:

- roads, sidewalks, crosswalks, bus shelters, traffic signals
- stormwater water detention and pipes, sewer system, restoring flooding stream banks
- tennis and basketball courts, park trails, park play equipment
- HVAC, roofs, WiFi and fiber connectivity, renovation and expansion for public buildings (schools, City Hall, community center, library, police station, courts)
- police emergency radio and 911 equipment

More Information

For more information on current capital projects, please visit www.fallschurchva.gov/Capital. For more information on the FY2016 budget, please visit www.fallschurchva.gov/Budget. For Frequently Asked Questions about the CIP, please visit www.fallschurchva.gov/CIP.

QUESTION #1: Of the non-mandatory CIP projects listed, please rank them in order of most important (rank 1) to least important (rank 9). Each option should have a unique number; that is, only one project should be ranked 1, one project ranked 2, etc.

- _____ Business Area Investments: Benches, landscaping, lighting, sidewalk expansion and/or repair and cleaning, electricity and water access points
- _____ Cyclist Facilities: Bicycle routes, bicycle racks, bicycle sharing
- _____ Government Facilities: Renovation of government buildings, i.e. City Hall, police station, Community Center, Library, Property Yard, Aurora House
- _____ Parks: Facilities (athletic fields and courts, athletic equipment, playground equipment) and maintenance (trail repairs and expansion, tree maintenance, landscaping)
- _____ Pedestrian Facilities: Crosswalks, sidewalk construction, sidewalk repair and upgrades
- _____ Roadways: Paving, traffic signal repair and upgrades
- _____ Schools: Renovation or expansion of school buildings (Mt. Daniel Elementary, Thomas Jefferson Elementary, Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, George Mason High School)
- _____ Transit: Vehicle purchase for more frequent service, amenities like bus stop shelters and benches
- _____ Utilities: Stormwater (detention facilities, pipe repair and upgrades, stream restoration, flooding remediation) and sewer system (pipe repair and upgrades)

QUESTION #2: For each project, please specify your preference with a ✓ or ✗ for timeline and funding. Please choose just one option of funding/timing per project.

	I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering this project within 5 years.	I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering this project within 10 years.	I do not support a tax rate increase, even if it means the project would be delayed 10 or more years.	No preference.
Business Area Investments: Benches, landscaping, lighting, sidewalk expansion and/or repair and cleaning, electricity and water access points				
Cyclist Facilities: Bicycle routes, bicycle racks, bicycle sharing				
Government Facilities: Renovation of government buildings, i.e. City Hall, police station, Community Center, Library, Property Yard, Aurora House				
Parks: Facilities (athletic fields and courts, athletic equipment, playground equipment) and maintenance (trail repairs and expansion, tree maintenance, landscaping)				

Pedestrian Facilities: Crosswalks, sidewalk construction, sidewalk repair and upgrades				
Roadways: Paving, traffic signal repair and upgrades				
Schools: Renovation or expansion of school buildings (Mt. Daniel Elementary, Thomas Jefferson Elementary, Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, George Mason High School)				
Transit: Vehicle purchase for more frequent service, amenities like bus stop shelters and benches				
Utilities: Stormwater (detention facilities, pipe repair and upgrades, stream restoration, flooding remediation) and sewer system (pipe repair and upgrades)				
	I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering this project within 5 years.	I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering this project within 10 years.	I do not support a tax rate increase, even if it means the project would be delayed 10 or more years.	No preference.

QUESTION #3: Please share additional comments, if any, about capital infrastructure needs for the City of Falls Church. Feel free to use additional paper for your comments.

QUESTION #4: Do you live or work in the City of Falls Church?

- ☐ Reside
- ☐ Work
- ☐ Reside and work
- ☐ Neither
- ☐ Not sure

QUESTION #5: If you live in the City, how long have you lived here? (Skip if you do not live in the City.)

- ☐ 15 years
- ☐ 6-10 years
- ☐ 11-15 years
- ☐ 15-20 years
- ☐ 20+ years

QUESTION #6: If you work in the City, how long have you worked here? (Skip if you do not work in the City.)

- ☐ 15 years
- ☐ 6-10 years
- ☐ 11-15 years
- ☐ 15-20 years
- ☐ 20+ years

QUESTION #7: Do you currently have a child or children in the City's public school system (Jessie Thackrey Preschool, Mt. Daniel Elementary, Thomas Jefferson Elementary, Mary Ellen Henderson Middle, George Mason High)?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Thank You

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please return by January 25 to the Office of Communications (City Hall, 300 Park Ave., Suite 303 East) or to the boxes in the Community Center and Library.

ADA Statement

The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This document will be made available in an alternate format upon request. Call 703-248-5210 (TTY 711).

On-line Survey Data Analysis Important, Non-mandatory CIP Projects

Question 1

Type	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Business Area	55	96	113	131	125	109	96	77	50
Bicycle Facilities	26	49	57	58	64	77	120	154	247
Government Facilities	62	65	91	105	111	119	112	121	67
Parks	75	153	150	137	121	107	63	36	11
Pedestrian Facilities	84	124	142	137	130	120	77	30	8
Roadways	69	104	107	111	114	118	129	58	41
Schools	379	106	59	40	51	45	58	53	62
Transit	10	22	32	38	46	70	115	253	267
Stormwater	94	134	101	95	90	88	83	70	98

Type	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Business Area	55	151	264	395	520	629	725	802	852
Bicycle Facilities	26	75	132	190	254	331	451	605	852
Government Facilities	62	127	218	323	434	553	665	786	853
Parks	75	228	378	515	636	743	806	842	853
Pedestrian Facilities	84	208	350	487	617	737	814	844	852
Roadways	69	173	280	391	505	623	752	810	851
Schools	379	485	544	584	635	680	738	791	853
Transit	10	32	64	102	148	218	333	586	853
Stormwater	94	228	329	424	514	602	685	755	853

Support for Tax Increase by Project Type

Question 2	Tax Increase, Delivery Within 5 Years	Tax Increase, Delivery Within 10 Years	No Tax Increase, Delay Delivery Beyond 10 Years	No Preference
Business Area	135	161	427	117
Bicycle Facilities	111	102	529	100
Government Facilities	143	246	360	87
Parks	254	198	309	78
Pedestrian Facilities	262	203	290	80
Roadways	174	225	324	103
Schools	424	114	269	36
Transit	81	118	518	121
Stormwater	203	233	298	102

	Tax Increase, Delivery Within 5 Years	Tax Increase, Delivery Within 10 Years	No Tax Increase, Delay Delivery Beyond 10 Years	No Preference
Business Area	16%	19%	51%	14%
Bicycle Facilities	13%	12%	63%	12%
Government Facilities	17%	29%	43%	10%
Parks	30%	24%	37%	9%
Pedestrian Facilities	31%	24%	35%	10%
Roadways	21%	27%	39%	12%
Schools	50%	14%	32%	4%
Transit	10%	14%	62%	14%
Stormwater	24%	28%	36%	12%

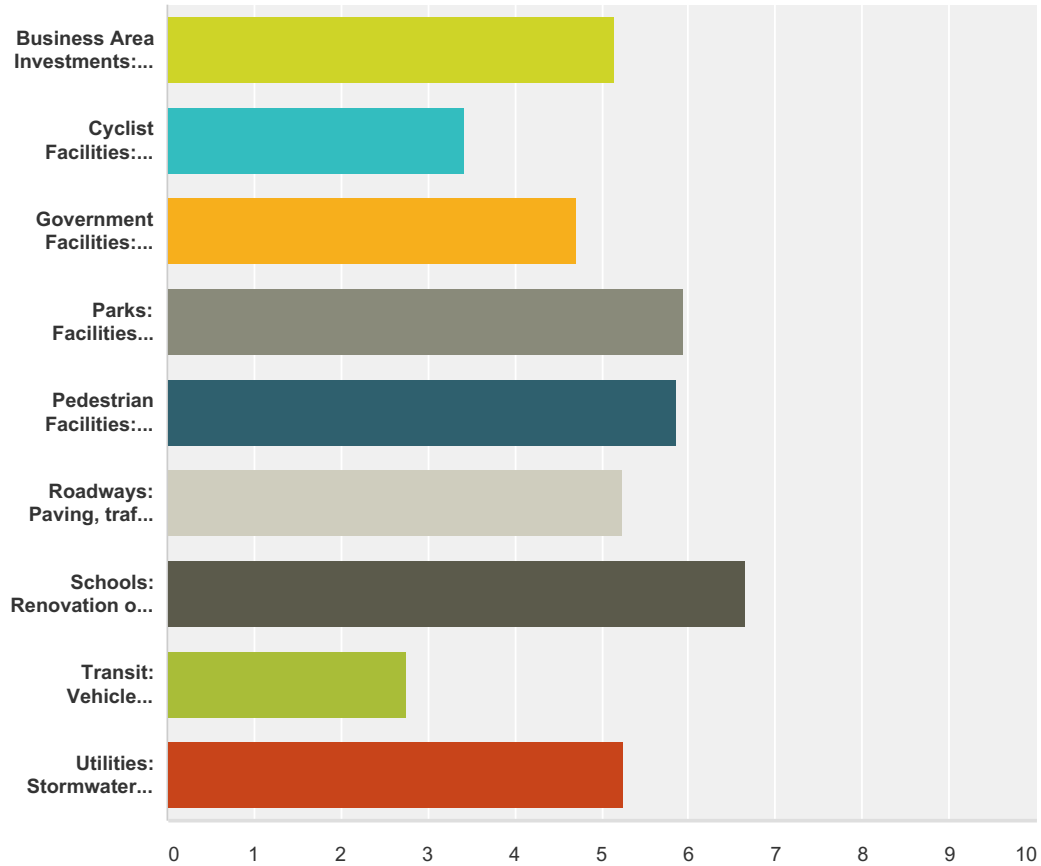
	Tax Increase, Delivery Within 5 or 10 Years	No Tax Increase, Delay Delivery Beyond Ten Years
Business Area	35%	51%
Bicycle Facilities	25%	63%
Government Facilities	47%	43%
Parks	54%	37%
Pedestrian Facilities	56%	35%
Roadways	48%	39%
Schools	64%	32%
Transit	24%	62%
Stormwater	52%	36%

	Tax Increase, Delivery Within 5 or 10 Years	No Tax Increase, Delay Delivery Beyond Ten Years
Schools	64%	32%
Pedestrian Facilities	56%	35%
Parks	54%	37%
Stormwater	52%	36%
Roadways	48%	39%
Government Facilities	47%	43%
Business Area	35%	51%
Bicycle Facilities	25%	63%
Transit	24%	62%

Capital Infrastructure Needs Survey

Q1 Of the non-mandatory CIP projects listed, please rank them in order of most important (1) to least important (9).

Answered: 854 Skipped: 21



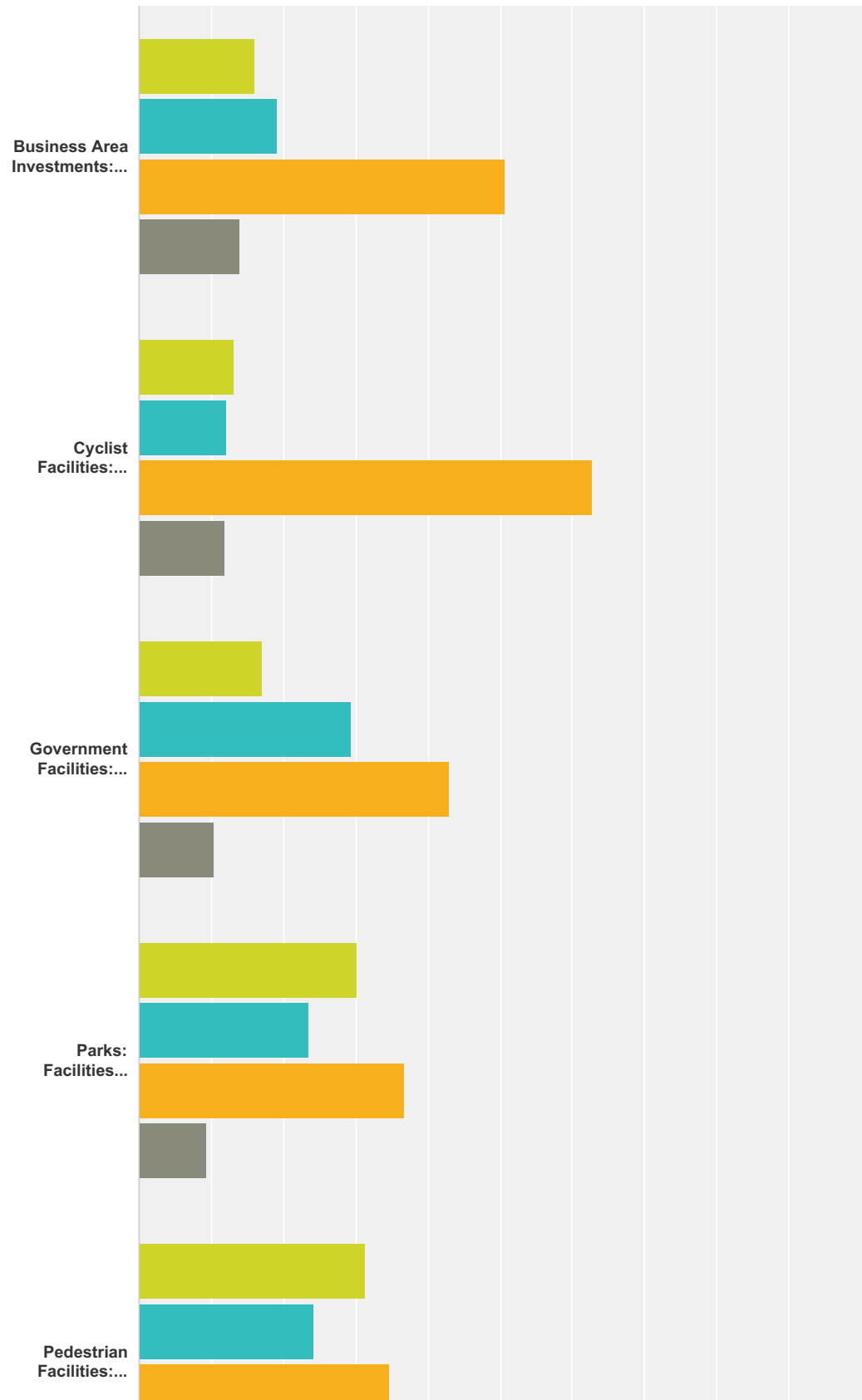
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total	Score
Business Area Investments: Benches, landscaping, lighting, sidewalk expansion and/or repair and cleaning, electricity and water access points	6.46% 55	11.27% 96	13.26% 113	15.38% 131	14.67% 125	12.79% 109	11.27% 96	9.04% 77	5.87% 50	852	5.16
Cyclist Facilities: Bicycle routes, bicycle racks, bicycle sharing	3.05% 26	5.75% 49	6.69% 57	6.81% 58	7.51% 64	9.04% 77	14.08% 120	18.08% 154	28.99% 247	852	3.42
Government Facilities: Renovation of government buildings, i.e. City Hall, police station, Community Center, Library, Property Yard, Aurora House	7.27% 62	7.62% 65	10.67% 91	12.31% 105	13.01% 111	13.95% 119	13.13% 112	14.19% 121	7.85% 67	853	4.71

Capital Infrastructure Needs Survey

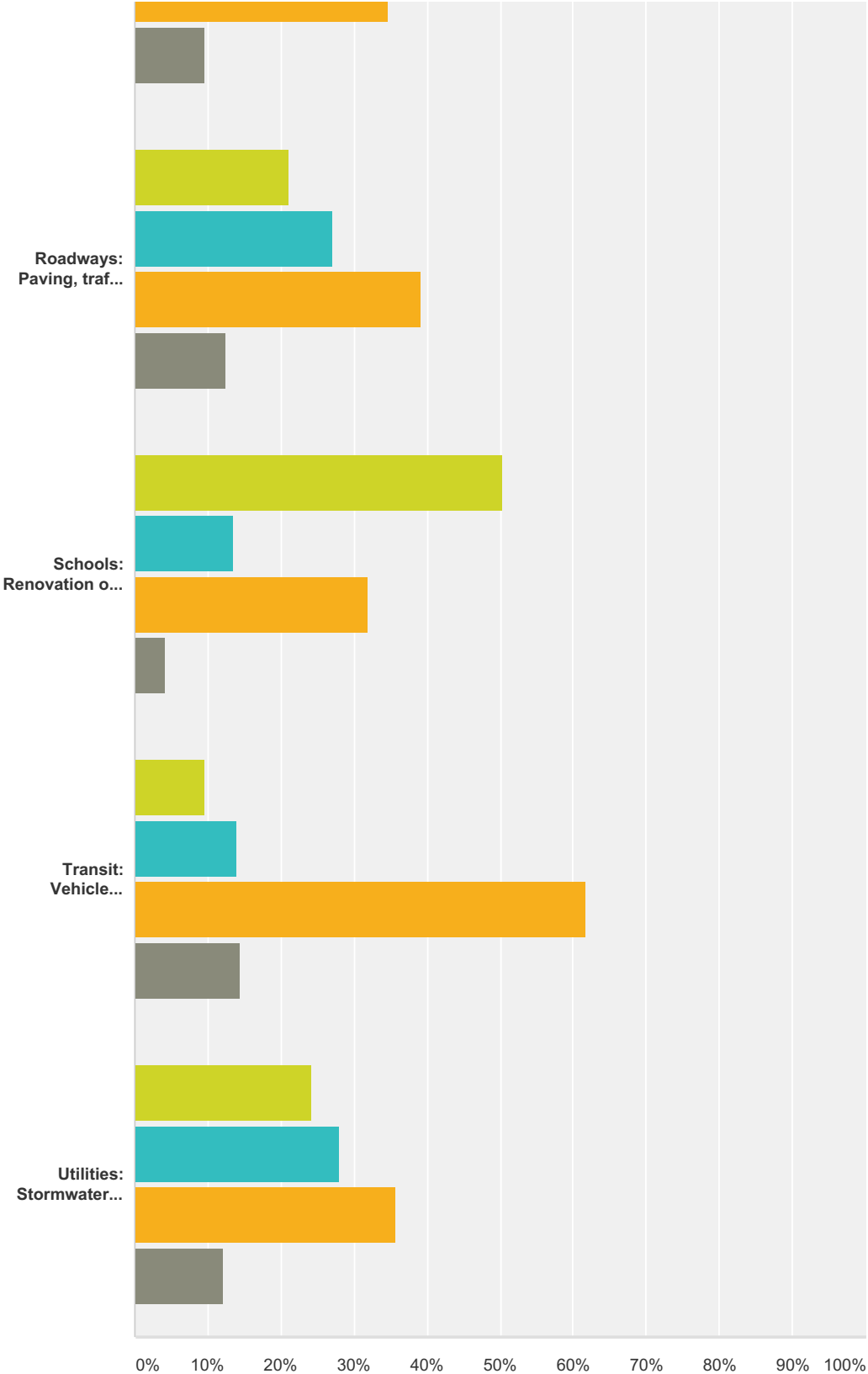
Parks: Facilities (athletic fields and courts, athletic equipment, playground equipment) and maintenance (trail repairs and expansion, tree maintenance, landscaping)	8.79% 75	17.94% 153	17.58% 150	16.06% 137	14.19% 121	12.54% 107	7.39% 63	4.22% 36	1.29% 11	853	5.95
Pedestrian Facilities: Crosswalks, sidewalk construction, sidewalk repair and upgrades	9.86% 84	14.55% 124	16.67% 142	16.08% 137	15.26% 130	14.08% 120	9.04% 77	3.52% 30	0.94% 8	852	5.86
Roadways: Paving, traffic signal repair and upgrades	8.11% 69	12.22% 104	12.57% 107	13.04% 111	13.40% 114	13.87% 118	15.16% 129	6.82% 58	4.82% 41	851	5.23
Schools: Renovation or expansion of school buildings (Mt. Daniel Elementary, Thomas Jefferson Elementary, Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, George Mason High School)	44.43% 379	12.43% 106	6.92% 59	4.69% 40	5.98% 51	5.28% 45	6.80% 58	6.21% 53	7.27% 62	853	6.67
Transit: Vehicle purchase for more frequent service, amenities like bus stop shelters and benches	1.17% 10	2.58% 22	3.75% 32	4.45% 38	5.39% 46	8.21% 70	13.48% 115	29.66% 253	31.30% 267	853	2.75
Utilities: Stormwater (detention facilities, pipe repair and upgrades, stream restoration, flooding remediation) and sewer system (pipe repair and upgrades)	11.02% 94	15.71% 134	11.84% 101	11.14% 95	10.55% 90	10.32% 88	9.73% 83	8.21% 70	11.49% 98	853	5.26

Q2 For each project, please specify your preference for timeline and funding.

Answered: 852 Skipped: 23



Capital Infrastructure Needs Survey



- I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering this project within 5 years.
- I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering this project within 10 years.
- I do not support a tax rate increase, even if it means the project would be delayed 10 or...
- No preference.

Capital Infrastructure Needs Survey

	I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering this project within 5 years.	I support a tax rate increase if it means delivering this project within 10 years.	I do not support a tax rate increase, even if it means the project would be delayed 10 or more years.	No preference.	Total
Business Area Investments: Benches, landscaping, lighting, sidewalk expansion and/or repair and cleaning, electricity and water access points	16.07% 135	19.17% 161	50.83% 427	13.93% 117	840
Cyclist Facilities: Bicycle routes, bicycle racks, bicycle sharing	13.18% 111	12.11% 102	62.83% 529	11.88% 100	842
Government Facilities: Renovation of government buildings, i.e. City Hall, police station, Community Center, Library, Property Yard, Aurora House	17.11% 143	29.43% 246	43.06% 360	10.41% 87	836
Parks: Facilities (athletic fields and courts, athletic equipment, playground equipment) and maintenance (trail repairs and expansion, tree maintenance, landscaping)	30.27% 254	23.60% 198	36.83% 309	9.30% 78	839
Pedestrian Facilities: Crosswalks, sidewalk construction, sidewalk repair and upgrades	31.38% 262	24.31% 203	34.73% 290	9.58% 80	835
Roadways: Paving, traffic signal repair and upgrades	21.07% 174	27.24% 225	39.23% 324	12.47% 103	826
Schools: Renovation or expansion of school buildings (Mt. Daniel Elementary, Thomas Jefferson Elementary, Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School, George Mason High School)	50.30% 424	13.52% 114	31.91% 269	4.27% 36	843
Transit: Vehicle purchase for more frequent service, amenities like bus stop shelters and benches	9.67% 81	14.08% 118	61.81% 518	14.44% 121	838
Utilities: Stormwater (detention facilities, pipe repair and upgrades, stream restoration, flooding remediation) and sewer system (pipe repair and upgrades)	24.28% 203	27.87% 233	35.65% 298	12.20% 102	836

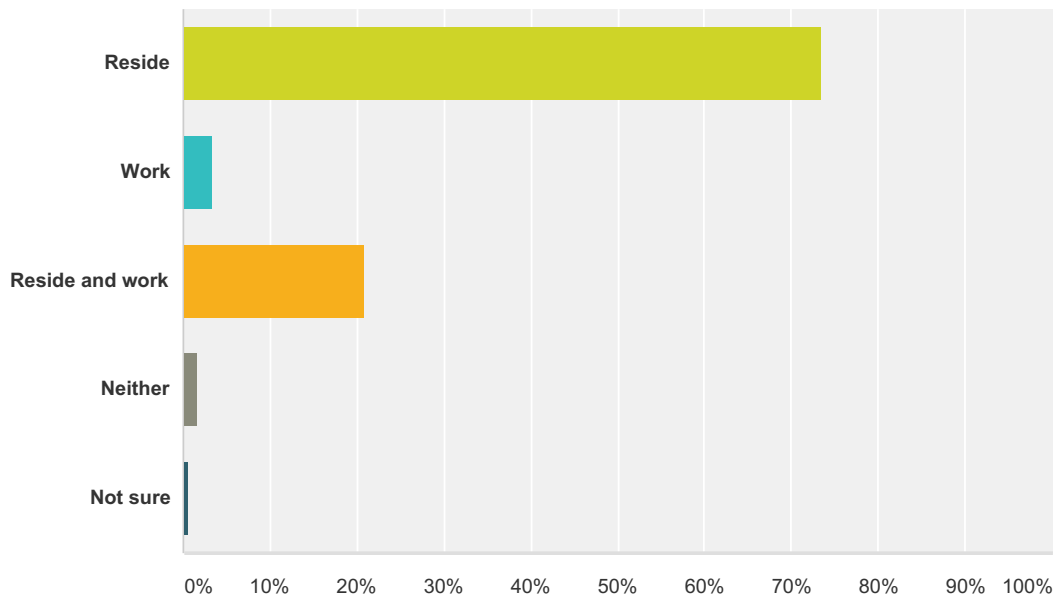
Capital Infrastructure Needs Survey

Q3 Please share additional comments, if any, about capital infrastructure needs for the City of Falls Church.

Answered: 321 Skipped: 554

Q4 Do you reside or work in the City of Falls Church?

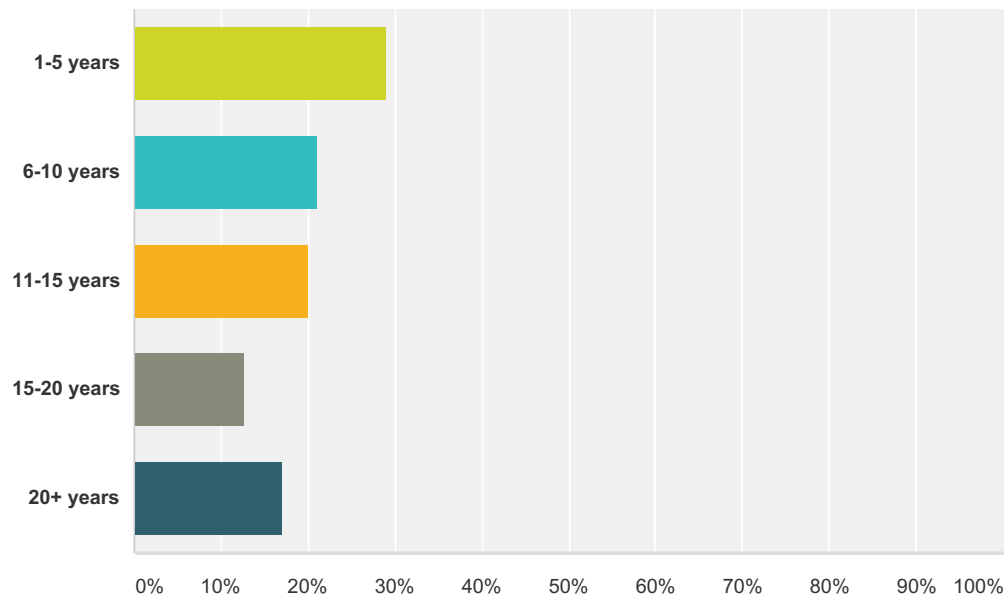
Answered: 858 Skipped: 17



Answer Choices	Responses	
Reside	73.43%	630
Work	3.26%	28
Reside and work	20.98%	180
Neither	1.75%	15
Not sure	0.58%	5
Total		858

Q5 How long have you lived in the City of Falls Church?

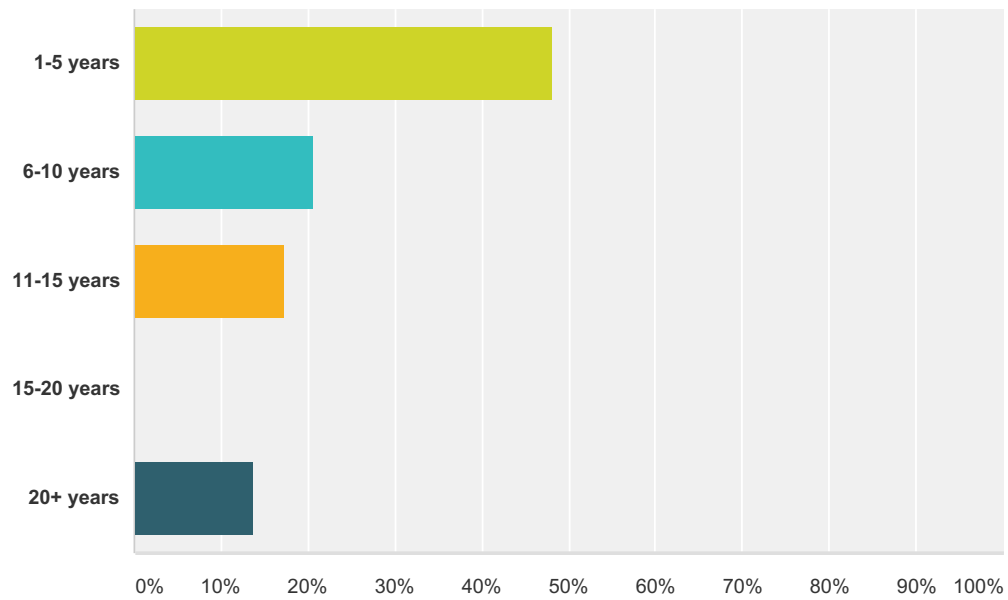
Answered: 629 Skipped: 246



Answer Choices	Responses	
1-5 years	28.93%	182
6-10 years	21.14%	133
11-15 years	20.03%	126
15-20 years	12.72%	80
20+ years	17.17%	108
Total		629

Q6 How long have you worked in the City of Falls Church?

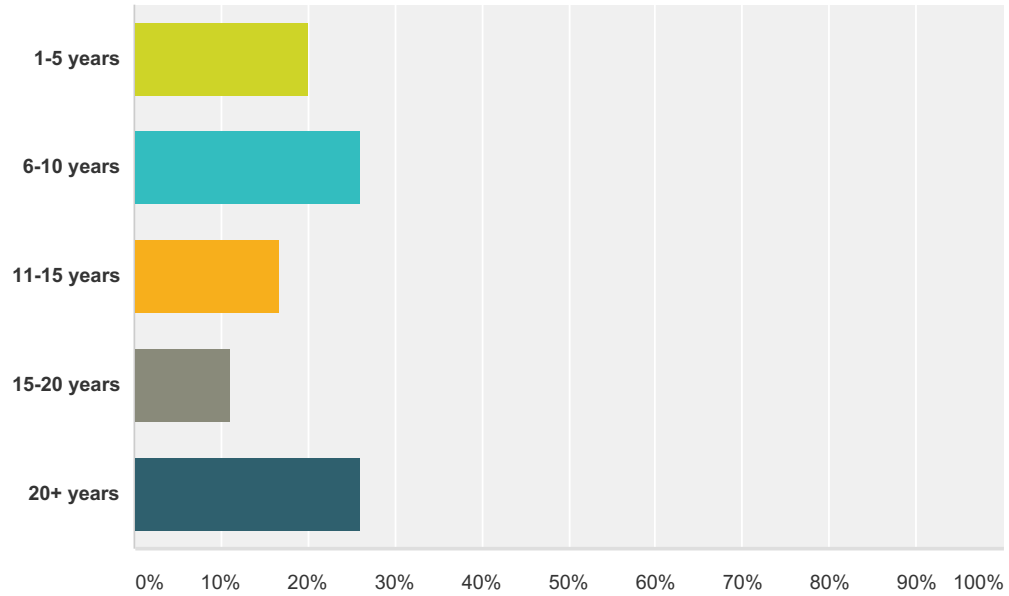
Answered: 29 Skipped: 846



Answer Choices	Responses
1-5 years	48.28% 14
6-10 years	20.69% 6
11-15 years	17.24% 5
15-20 years	0.00% 0
20+ years	13.79% 4
Total	29

Q7 How long have you lived or worked in the City of Falls Church, whichever is longest?

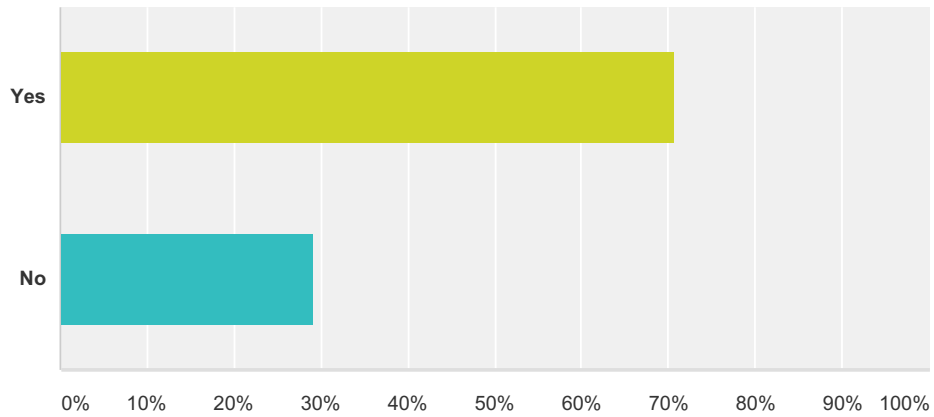
Answered: 180 Skipped: 695



Answer Choices	Responses	
1-5 years	20.00%	36
6-10 years	26.11%	47
11-15 years	16.67%	30
15-20 years	11.11%	20
20+ years	26.11%	47
Total		180

Q8 Do you currently have a child or children in the City's public school system (Jessie Thackrey Preschool, Mt. Daniel Elementary, Thomas Jefferson Elementary, Mary Ellen Henderson Middle, George Mason High)?

Answered: 827 Skipped: 48



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	70.74%	585
No	29.26%	242
Total		827

FY16-20 CIP Survey Question 3 Open-Ended Questions	Subject Category- key phrase									
Comment Submissions	Increase Taxes	Increase Eco Dev.	Affordability important (\$ & Energy Eff)	Schools Facility important	Library /City Hall import.	Parks/ Pools import.	Parking/ Transit/ Bike import.	Sidewalks/ Roads/ Utilities important	Budget/ CIP Process imprvmnts.	Survey Format Concerns
DO NOT TAX THE PEOPLE! You tax us on everything else and people want to leave because of all of this taxing! I definitely know of people that want to get the heck out of here because of this high tax rate! If you are going to tax us you WILL make it small! There are plenty of other ways to fix all these problems that NEED to be fixed! Improve the schools to make them the best they can be, more shopping, restaurants, plazas, etc. and more parks/ arenas- swimming pools! There are multiple ways you can fund besides taxing the people! And don't make these jobs/ fixes more than ten years because that is just ridiculous!	No	Yes				Yes				
. On the survey: Part One of the survey is not structured in a way to get real priorities because equally ranks all projects from 1 to 9, and does not allow a choice of never. Therefore I may not support items 4 though 10 of my rankings at all - City-wide accumulated averages will not show it. The willingness to pay increased taxes for each project helps - somewhat, bit not the same. The school board seems to live in a world of greed and free of arithmetic - apparently incapable of understanding there are financial limits that we must all live within. Falls Church can not carry the HIGHEST property taxes in Virginia. It is not sustainable. We are taxing empty-nesters out of the City - and those homes will be likely bought by families with children creating more of a financial death spiral for the City. The vote to fund Mt Daniel renovations was only that. It was not a blank check for other school spending.	No			No						Yes
. This seems to convoluting the Virginia State (legal term) of Capital Improvement Program	No		Yes		No	No				Yes

(CIP) and the related budget that all jurisdictions must have and Capital Infrastructure Program (CIP) and also substituting a unique restricted definition. Is this misleading, re-Notermining - or do we have both now? . City taxes are very high now, and we need to replace and repair at a rate that we can afford it - over time. Neither the library, City Hall or the parks are a crisis. Yet our extreme taxes compared to other jurisdictions will be an issue for developers and businesses considering moving here - and force more existing residents to move away due to high taxes.										
1 NO MORE SCHOOL EXPANSION FOR NEXT 10 YEARS. 2. Businesses should contribute more to infrastructure that benefits their activities, especially TIERED PUBLIC PARKING facilities in critical areas, rather than the parking sprawl we have today. 3. The city should change its policies of putting pedestrian crosswalks only at intersections. It should PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN STOPLIGHTS with CROSSWALKS on heavily transited streets with significant pedestrian traffic even where there are no intersections & risks to pedestrians is significant. Pedestrian stoplights/cross walks should be especially considered in areas of heavy pedestrian traffic where there are segmented or nonexistent sidewalks that force pedestrians to walk in the street to reach intersections.		Yes		No			Yes	Yes		
1) Need sidewalks through the whole city - neighborhoods, etc. - have to walk in the street because there are no sidewalks and we are only getting denser in our 2 x 1 mile city. #1 priority. 2) Would like to replace the street lights with energy efficient street lamps that do not contribute to night light "pollution". 3) Need to widen sidewalks in the main area of town/broad street/maple/west so they are pedestrian friendly and not so close to the street. - wishful thinking 4) need to replace all traffic signals with the metal poles rather than having them hang on the wires. 5) lobby VA legislature to fund to underground utility lines - they are unsightly and		Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes		

would have less power outages if the lines were underground 6) pave the streets (in the neighborhoods) that need them - can you do it on a shorter cycle and need to keep up lining the streets - 7) create a public parking garage behind Argia's etc. 8) can we have the pretty flower arrangements in the medium again and in the flower baskets along Broad Street? You could you low maintenance plants? 9) cut down the bamboo trees in the city parks - they are spreading. 10) Create a parking garage for City Hall - where the police cars are parked -										
<p>1. West End Park: All the bushes were chopped down and a number of trees. This exposes the park to lots of traffic noise from broad, and unsightly views. Why was this done? It seems that in building the "skate park", the rest of the park is enormously less attractive - it was a green oasis. Will we now pay to put border bushes up along the busy and loud streets? It seems it would be worth it. I would donate border bushes to encapsulate the park and buffer it from the main streets.</p> <p>2. Drainage on Grove Avenue is very bad, with water pooling and freezing near the bottom part of the road near West. This is dangerous. Allowing sump pumps to discharge water in the street gutters makes this problem even worse. Seems like more drains need to be added.</p> <p>3. There are very few street lights on a lot of streets, making evening walks in some areas creepy.</p> <p>4. The proposed library expansion - I don't understand why it is needed. Why not put all municipal services in the city hall, and expand that and be done with it. Sell the library building and use those funds to help pay for any move and expansion. I love the library. It is sweet and homey and enough for my purposes. But if there really is a feeling that it has to expand, then add on to city hall where there is plenty of land available. Also, since there is a library sharing agreement with Fairfax and Arlington, it makes expansion here less necessary.</p> <p>5. Seriously, what about some public private partnerships here? The taxes are too high already</p>	No	Yes			Yes/ No	Yes		Yes		

- and beyond the schools, which we absolutely have to keep up or interest/desire to live in FCC will wane - so can we be a little innovative, while remaining tasteful, in our pursuits of improvements?										
1. I do not support a property tax rate increase for any of the capital improvements. (For any reason really). It's is already excessive compared to neighboring jurisdictions. 2. Proceeds from the water sale should be invested in infrastructure, that will improve the tax base over time. 3. City could employ some of the unreasonably high reserves to invest in infrastructure projects. 3. At the current historical low levels of interest rate, this is a once in generation opportunity to finance infrastructure capital improvement with long term fixed rate loans. 4. Similar jurisdictions reduced tax rates, when real estate assessments were climbing, but not in FCC, where it keeps creeping up irrespective of anything.	No		Yes							
A major water main break underscores the importance of capital infrastructure.								Yes		
Above all I support that the large amount of tax dollars I contribute to the City of Falls Church be spent on traffic calming for residential streets.								Yes		
Adequate traffic flow planning and enforcement of traffic rules is recommended given the increasing volume in the city. Speeding and aggressive driving will likely worsen in the next 5 years.								Yes		
All of the things on the list are important. All could be argued for needing a tax increase to support. This survey is very difficult to complete because some needs are greater than others and citizens completing this will likely not know which are the greatest needs. For example, flooding of homes in some sections of the city demand immediate repair, but someone living on top of a hill might have no clue of this need.									Yes	Yes

All upgrades, and new construction, should include alternative energy sources.			Yes							
Although I am addressed Falls Church, I am not in the City limits- however, since I am nearby I do partake of Falls Church amenities, including shared services between Fairfax County residents, as the closest location I can participate in them and greatly appreciate Falls Church partnering on such events/services. As these events/services are in need of any Capital Infrastructures, which may need Improvements, possibly Fairfax County can be tapped to assist.		Yes								
Although the George bus was a failure it would be good if a new transit system to the subway would be included in the transportation plan. It would be perfect if the city could contract an affordable, smaller vehicle service.			Yes				Yes			
As a resident of East Falls Church I am not impacted by any Falls Church tax adjustments. I am however highly affected by the transportation decisions made by the City. For the sake of livability and vitality in the City and in East Falls Church I urge that the highest priority be given to improvements to the East Falls Church METRO Station, access to that station, bus service between Seven Corners, that station and the West Falls Church METRO station and a "critical-mass" of bike-sharing stations between the EFC and WFC METRO station. Both bus and bike-share corridors should follow Washington Street and Broad Street.							Yes			
As much as I want all of the things on this list, and agree we need most of them, the tax rate is becoming unsustainable. Our taxes continue to rise significantly each year even though our salaries remain static. I have a child in the schools, and as much as I appreciate how awesome they are, I would rather have them focus on the instruction rather than worry about the infrastructure, especially since I have heard new projections aren't indicating the growth that we were expecting. There is no need for every single child to have a brand new laptop, things like	No		Yes			Yes		Yes		

that could still be accessible without overkill. I want them to use our money smartly. I would rather you get some kind of fee from all of these new developments that are driving the larger student population. To remain a well rounded "little city" then we need the whole package, walkability, parks, good business infrastructure and schools. It doesn't make any sense to have an awesome city that nobody can afford to live in, or that people leave once their kids are out of school. Sadly that's what we will have to do, because our \$200K+ salary won't be enough to live there once we retire and our son graduates. Something for you to think about.										
As part of the city business and residences growth plan, I do not want to see city schools class size exceed 18 to 22. So I would support potential tax increase if we can see city revenue projections and school operating cost over the next 5 years and 10 years and the operating cost gap and potential options for filling the gap. thank you.				Yes						
At the high school, we are keenly aware of the need to replace the turf football field which has simply outlived its useful life. Without a budget allocation to replace it, it is likely that the field will become unplayable which will mean the suspension of high school sports like football and soccer and also will severely impact the community's ability to continue programs like flag football and other youth activities.						Yes				
Athletic fields should be a top priority, closely followed by schools which is what makes this community unique and valued. The City is too small and resources are spread too thin to please every interest, so we have to choose what makes us most strong, desirable, and true to our City's heritage.			Yes			Yes				
Be careful or "A Special Place" will be come a bankrupt dump due to unreasonable taxation and irresponsible spending'	No									

Bike share is much more important to me than bike lanes within the City.							Yes			
Building a stronger business tax base will unlock the necessary funding for future capital improvements.		Yes								
business development costs certainly must be integrated into any fees for a business to engage in the area, rather than charging residents via a tax increase.		Yes								
Businesses should underwrite improvements in their areas, not taxpayers. Investment in teacher salaries, reduced class size and academic and technology programs is more important than expansion of facilities. Need a high-walled dog park along the bike trail in the city		Yes		No						
Capital investments should be ranked by broadest possible impact and benefit. A cost benefit analysis should be completed to ensure a positive outcome.									Yes	
CIP can be done but I think they should be identified and completed within the current budget. If these means re-aligning the budget so the CIP can be completed, then the City should identify which budget areas (ie. schools) can be reduced to meet the other needs of the city. I feel that the schools can ask for any amount of money and it is granted without looking at the other needs of the city. There are traffic issues that need to be addressed, water quality issues, increasing taxes with less services (ie. DMV select) and yet are taxes are extremely high compared to other areas.				No				Yes	Yes	
City Hall does not look or function like a government building. No security, hard to navigate and does not look clean nor present well					Yes					
City is allowing more and more development bringing families to the schools. Developers need to pay for school additions/renovations or the City needs to restrict additional housing. Homeowners can not keep paying higher and higher taxes to build schools.	Yes	Yes								

City needs to better manage the budget. A tax rate increase is unacceptable.	No								Yes	
City structures should be a higher priority then school structures st this time. WE HAVE OFTEN FUNDED SCHOOL FACILITIES AT THE EXPENSE OD CITY FACILITIES IN RECENT YEARS.					Yes					
Comment on the current speed bumps the City of Falls Church has. Those currently on Cherry and Oak will damage cars if traveled over faster than 5 MPH (Oak St) & 10 MPH (Cherry) can cause car damage in my opinion and make the City of Falls Church liable for lawsuits. These Mattel version (plastic on Cherry and huge piles of shoddy asphalt creation (speed bumps on Oak) should be replaced with speed tables or removed. The speed humps on Little Falls St have a slightly better design, but still substandard.										
Consider eliminating telephone poles and burying electrical and utility wires; making sure that at least one side of each street has a sidewalk.								Yes		
curbing the significant erosion caused by four mile run - it is swallowing trees and threatening the bike path								Yes		
Developer proffers need to make these possible. Not additional tax increases.		Yes								
Developers in the city should proffer many of the lower priority improvements.		Yes								
do not ignore the Roosevelt Blvd part of the city where there are many pedestrians, especially close to Wilson Blvd.								Yes		
Do not purchase additional park land if we cannot maintain what we have. Stormwater infrastructure should be paid by the stormwater fees.						No		Yes		
Do not raise taxes. Make do with what you have (which is a lot).	No									

Don't lump the library with city hall. All that does it dilute support for the library.					Yes					
Education, roads, and business are paramount.		Yes		Yes				Yes		
Electric transmission reliability & safety								Yes		
Expanding and updating our school buildings is most important and high priority in my opinion. Falls Church City's best asset is the school system. We should invest in the schools accordingly.				Yes						
Expansion/renovation of the library should be a priority.					Yes					
Falls Church City exists because of its schools; the pace of modern life continues to accelerate thus requiring sustained commitment of resources at fully funded levels. Conversely, amenities that are nice to have, e.g., parks, bike paths, etc. or benefit targeted audiences, e.g., business district improvements, are less critical to the quality of life for Falls Church residents, or not the benefits do not evenly distribute to the greatest number of its citizens.		No		Yes		No	No			
Falls Church City needs better pedestrian facilities and lighting throughout the town. Important for safety, business development, and students.								Yes		
Falls Church desperately needs improved and expanded bicycle infrastructure and yes, that means at the expense of parking and other car-centric amenities if necessary.							Yes			
Falls Church needs a new high school building since the current one is dilapidated; it is raining in, it has asbestos, it is falling apart. Falls Church needs to improve its main shopping streets and makes them more attractive. Currently no one would ever go there to shop since they are next to a extremely busy street with no setbacks, flowers, plants, no modern facades etc.				Yes				Yes		
Falls Church needs to determine how to let the people who have kids decide on the future of the	No			No						

school system with the understanding that they will be the ones taxed for the improvements. We keep expanding the investment in schools and education and we have no benefit of doing that. I would like to reconsider making the schools part of Fairfax County School System where we have a much bigger base to draw from.										
Falls Church needs well-designed, thoughtful school renovations/rebuilds. That's the first priority. If the City wants to continue using the turf field at George Mason HS, it needs to replace the existing field asap. Everything else (roads, benches, storm water drains, etc) should be considered a regular expense and should be been accounted for in the budget. That is, no tax hike should be necessary to maintain the infrastructure of a 2.2 square mile city.	No			Yes		Yes		Yes		
Falls Church should consider renovating the high school and adding a swimming pool for students and the community.				Yes		Yes				
Fix pedestrian/traffic intersection of Grove at West. Extremely hazardous for pedestrians. needs a pedestrian crosswalk painted on road crossing both grove and west. also if a "don't block the box" sign and road painting was placed at intersection, it would help to improve the traffic backup at the intersection in the AM and PM rush hours.								Yes		
Fix the schools before you do anything else. The physical structure of George Mason is a disgrace and tj is too crowded.				Yes						
Focus on quality of life amenities that make the city an overall pleasant and inviting place to spend time. For example, Cherry Hill is a gem that is disconnected, so you feel like you have to drive there, which is a shame.						Yes				
four way stops at all side street intersections								Yes		

Fund without putting further burden on the city residents. You will choke the golden goose at some point in time	No									
Funds need to be reprogrammed to address CIP costs. The residence cannot support another increase in taxes. Cost should be reduced in some areas to support additional spending in more critical areas	No									
George mason high school is long past due for replacement while Mt Daniel and TJ have each had (or will have) two addition/renovations. Please no more crosswalks or bike lanes to disrupt traffic any further than has already been done. A little more belt tightening at City Hall and there will not be a need for a further increase in the tax rate which is already onerous.				Yes						
George Mason High School needs to be rebuilt. It does not compare to other local area high schools in terms of the facility. We also need a local area bus like the George bus that runs along Broad St to and from both Metro stations since parking is inadequate for our businesses and at East Falls Church with the new Silver Line. That way we might actually be able to attract some shops other than nail salons.				Yes			Yes			
George Mason HS is a priority				Yes						
George Mason needs significant investment in the next 5 years. We value education in Falls Church, and we need high quality facilities to enable the educational mission.				Yes						
Get rid of taxi depot										
Given our already high tax basis, I would like to see much better and more transparent planning for the future. Our greatest draw is our strong schools. This will attract young families, many with a good amount of disposable income. The city should look to draw businesses that these	No	Yes		Yes						

people would frequent. Moreover, given the business expansion of Tysons Corner, the City should look to draw large corporations and businesses. Finally, this idiotic practice of one time taxes for new apartments has to be replaced with something more fiscally sound and able to sustain the increased burden on the school system over a period of years.										
Given our small size and the variety of activities within the city, one of the most attractive aspects of the city should be its walkability. But many of the City's sidewalks are poorly maintained, are not wide enough, or are obstructed with utility poles. This presents not only a tourism problem but also a safety issue, and it's important that we make investments now to avoid accidents, deaths, and loss of tax revenue later. The other thing that brings people to Falls Church is the school system. I supported the Mt. Daniel referendum (even if it meant a slight tax increase) because of the importance of having adequate school facilities. The City should prioritize George Mason for updating in the very near term; we simply cannot wait 15 or 20 years for that aging building to be brought up to standard.		Yes		Yes				Yes		
GMHS needs to be the 1st priority to the City. It is needed immediately!				Yes						
Hard survey to do...ques about supporting tax rate increase for each do not provide any quantitative sense. Tax increase of 1-2 cents might be ok but if I answer yes to supporting a tax increase then I fell like I could be "voting" for "the sky's the limit" and I don't want to do that.										Yes
Have visible speed limit signs (25 Miles) at Great Falls.Cars are always driving too fast from West to Lincoln to catch a green traffic light at Lincoln.								Yes		
Highest priority should be to build a new high school. The only reason I put renovation of government facilities is because you put library in that group -- I would support increase in taxes to build an amazing library that would be a huge draw/focus for the city. (forget the parking				Yes	Yes/ No		Yes/ No	Yes		

issue! Add on a major (2 or 3 story) wing to the edge of the retaining wall on the right of the building all the way to the steps, but leave side of library near park the same so there is a human scale. I know in a small city we can't have everything be great -- but we should have a great, big library. Stop making concern about cars and parking such a huge priority in our city -- it is okay if people have to park a few blocks away and walk -- it is a walkable city, and if you made biking a bigger deal, maybe more people would bike to the farmers market, etc. (Right now, quick, think -- where would those bikers lock their bikes while they went to the library or Farmers Market?) Most areas seems pretty safe to walk, with the glaring exception of lack of sidewalks in heavily trafficked Park Ave/n. Virginia Ave library area (a block away from library and so a LOT of moms with strollers are negotiating getting out of the car with toddlers as people race around the corner to cut through N. Virginia Ave.). I would focus pedestrian safety concerns around areas like Cherry Hill (expand sidewalk on north side of Park, and down N. Virginia), Broad Street (make sidewalks bigger) and high school areas (that is an extremely unsafe area for bikes, cars, pedestrians -- put more signs up alerting people that they are speeding, etc). City hall and offices seem dumpy, I know, but not bad.										
Hire students in the summer to pick up trash around town and help with Parks maintenance.										
I do not support a tax increase for any purpose. We are already paying too much in taxes	No									
I agree that the infrastructure of the City needs to be upgraded. My biggest concern is a new high school, as well as other school projects. I do not support a new library, but if there is a way to renovate it to meet future needs (i.e., more digital, less space for actual books, and possibly enhanced City parking), I do support that. I look forward to better plans to renovate City Hall that				Yes	No	Yes				

are realistic, not frivolous, and creative (i.e., some sort of "public-private partnership"). Well maintained parks and recreation fields and facilities are important for enhancing quality of life of all citizens.										
I am concerned about removal of trees in West End Park and am generally worried about plans I've heard about to take local parks and turn them into sports fields. Local parks are ideal for children to gather - in a way past generations did - rather than having to drive children to areas in Arlington or across the city to play and gather with others. Parks with fields are a nuisance in neighborhoods, causing traffic and parking congestion, not to mention dangerous situations for emergency vehicles and children on bikes. We support school projects. We are a bit concerned about plans to turn GM campus into a mixed use development which would radically transform the nature of the Middle school and high school environment. This is a gorgeous campus and should be preserved as much as possible. A library renovation seems like a good priority given demand in the city. I'm not aware of how pressing the needs are for other city buildings to be renovated. We would support an indoor pool either in a prospective GM school renovation or at the community center. Stormwater management is a big concern for us...with flooding in many neighborhoods after heavy rains, it seems like this would be an important priority. The problem worsens each year. I can't imagine how bad things will get with additional development in the West end.				Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		
I am extremely concerned about our rising taxes . Falls Church should focus on expanding our commercial and retail tax base. Tax revenue growth from an expanding tax base should pay for capital infrastructure improvements. The City's current fiscal path is NOT sustainable.	No		Yes							
I am sorry that you lumped the groups the way you have in the survey. It skews in favor of										Yes

schools while lumping the library with all government services. I would prefer to vote on library cip without having to deal with all government services. I think you should redo the survey.										
I am strongly opposed any more money being allocated to the FC school system!!!!!!				No						
I am surprised some items are considered projects vs. maintenance (sidewalk repair/upgrades, road repairs / paving, signal repair) Also, in general I support items, but can't wholesale rate or say I'd support a tax increase without specific details on what items are being considered for funding. There is also discretionary and non-discretionary spending. For example, I would fully support upgrades to city facilities if they are needed for a safety reasons or other specific justified need, which I would consider to be non-discretionary.										Yes
I am surprised to see detention facilities as part of Utilities. Small is beautiful, I don't think we need large expensive projects. More money for the schools is good to keep the classroom sizes small, not to stick the kids in front of ipads. So it's about priorities and not so much money. We don't need more red light cameras. Funds towards a good library is a great thing, and a sign of a strong community. I like to be able to walk and bike around the city, however with these large construction projects, I feel that I no longer will be able to do so. I live off of Hillwood Avenue and find that access to the W&OD is something desireable, but again with large high rises going up remaining empty like a ghost town Clarendon, it's less of the small town, walk to the library and farmers market sort of place. I don't want things to get too big too fast.				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes		
I am tired of having the tax burden rest on homeowners and would like to see more businesses move into the city that can contribute to the tax base. We need to make better development choices and stop adding apartments.	No	Yes								

I believe the city needs to look at other areas of the city and not just the inner area around Broad St. We definitely are in need of services and maintenance in the Roosevelt Blvd. area, to include sidewalk repairs, speed bumps to stop the horrid speeding on that road (even though the police are always conducting enforcement operations). There should be crosswalks from Wilson Blvd. down to the City/County line. The small patch of plants at No. Roosevelt and Roosevelt Blvd should be removed as it impedes line of sight for driver's turning right on Roosevelt Blvd. even after they clean the plants when requested.								Yes		
I believe the proposals to expand the library space is ridiculous and is not taking into consideration the way technology and younger generations will be getting together and utilizing data and information. Libraries will be gathering spaces, not book storage spaces. The current space should be upgraded for code and comfort as well as forward thinking usage. We are too small a city to have a gigantic library and those who are making the proposals are not forward thinking enough. They are basing what they want on needs now, not what the next generation is really going to be using it for. We cannot afford and should not spend money based on the current proposals.			Yes		No					
I came here for excellent schools for my children and that is my baseline expectation. I want to live in an exceptional city and I expect to pay exceptional taxes for that right. We cannot expect exceptional services for average taxes. Comparisons with local jurisdictions are completely irrelevant to me. The city with the highest median income in the US can afford exceptional services. Sadly, I believe the city is in a downward spiral toward being average. When city leaders say that we need population growth to maintain what we have then we will forever be adding residents and the students they bring to the school system. The cycle will continue until,			Yes	Yes						

at some point, the magic that was Falls Church is gone. We did not protect enough of our resources for business purposes as we listened to experts/developers who were making recommendations for their own best interests and we were always overly concerned with being like surrounding jurisdictions. I hope that this happens years after my last child is done with the school system so I can get decent value for my house before I leave. Until that time, it's all about the fully-funded schools.										
I cannot believe that we can't do some CIP without a tax increase. We have among (if not the) highest rates in NOVA and you are saying we can't maintain our infrastructure without yet ANOTHER tax increase. Sometimes enough is enough. Live within your means - I do.	No									
I consider many of the activities listed to be operating expenses, and while they may require tax dollars, should not be included as CIP projects. Major CIP projects will require bond financing, and debt service will affect tax rates, but not as much as would be indicated by total cost.									Yes	
I do not support funding for cyclist projects.							No			
I don't see a huge need for these CIP in the City, except the Mt Daniel expansion which is already funded; and the storm water management work which is already underway - both with taxes.				Yes				Yes		
I don't see the need for a massive expansion of the Library especially if most of the budget would go toward significantly more parking. The library is centrally located with a large parking lot on the east side, - some kind of sharing arrangement might be worked out with the that adjoining office building. The expansion seems misguided considering that so much information sharing is moving to the Internet. I am glad to see the Clty taking real steps to mitigate our stormwater problems. The Clty should stop approving new buildings with large					No	yes		Yes		

basements, often replacing tear down that wisely did not have deep basements because of the high water table. I see too many of these with sumps that discharge directly into the street. This should not be allowed nor should the City allow gutters to discharge directly to the street or sidewalk,. At the very least these buildings should be charged a higher stormwater fee to disincentivize the practice. The City should restructure the stormwater fee to provide more than token incentives for reducing impervious surfaces and installing Green Infrastructure controls to encourage rainfall to soak in where it falls. The City could facilitate this by making rain garden infiltration media available at a reduced cost to land owners and by use matching funds from a Green Infrastructure installation fund. Regarding Parks - in some areas our parks are being loved to death. Large areas of Cherry hill park have badly compacted soil and are actively eroding. This is quite obviously happening across from the library adjacent to the pine grove, at the base of the woodland train on the far north corner of the park and just West and uphill from the volleyball court. Establishing a few stone dust or mulched trails that can handle heavier foot traffic, will take some pressure off the natural and grassy areas. We should also only mulch mow and not remove fallen leaves and twigs which are needed to regenerate the soil (increase absorption, lessen effects of compaction...). We should be applying more organic matter to these areas not removing it!										
I feel that the taxes in this city are more than sufficient to address CIP issues. I hope that the city will take our newest tax (impervious surface) and put it to good use but do so to benefit the areas with residents that are paying the tax. I don't appreciate the signs that tell me that my fees are at work in areas that I don't live in or really utilize.	No							Yes		
I have been waiting 65 years for a swimming pool for Falls Church taxpayers and students. I					No	Yes				

feel like the only thing I get for my \$10K in real estate taxes annually, is my paltry once a week trash pickup. As for Government building expansion, we've canned the water department and now we lost the DMV privileges. Arlington does most of our Court work. Libraries are changing in the wake of computers, tablets, and cellphones. Who needs books anymore when we have all the gadgets to read instantly. So why would we need any kind of building upgrades or expansion? No need. As for the bicycles, why not put a police person out there ticketing all those bikers who don't slow down at the cross-streets and expect that cars will see them at dusk and dawn as they come shooting out in front of our cars. More bikers? No thanks!										
I have noticed over investment in traffic signals, such as a pedestrian light blocking pedestrians walking on the sidewalk on Broad St by Reese PI unless they first apply for passage by button. Worst of all, existing pedestrian lights all over the City appear to have been downgraded from automatic green to manual push button green. High expense and making the City less walk-able. For pedestrian risk management, crosswalk paint refresh at intersections works better anyway than to dumb down the lights like that. Furthermore, I am afraid of potential over investment in school capital projects, such as tearing down iconic George Mason HS because maintenance challenges. I suspect that a financial model will not be run to weigh cost and benefit of higher maintenance versus higher capital project budgets. My hypothesis is that higher maintenance cost and incremental buildings, rather than tear down will present a better cost benefit. I generally do not mind higher taxes, and believe we are currently getting a great deal in the Falls Church system, but recent projects and proposals, such as the George Mason and the library activities have me convinced that we will lose historically important buildings because of a lack of vision and financial acumen.	Yes		Yes	No				Yes		

I prefer lower taxes, but I want the schools funded because that is the main reason I live in the city of falls church.	No			Yes						
I ranked my priorities to spending tax dollars. I do not think the answer to all funding is "raising tax dollars". There is only so high one can go. We have lived here 13 years and are raising 3 kids.... We have heard throughout "we will raise the amount of people living here and the individual tax rate will go down... Instead we seem to be stressing the schools, facilities etc... And increasing the taxes. Yes, hands down improvements have to be made. We have to pay for things as a city but personally it's been pitched for years that all the high rises would solve this problem..... And it hasn't.	Yes								Yes	
I suggest that bicycle "sharrows" be put on Broad Street, not shunting the cyclists off to less convenient ways. Putting the sharrows on the other roads is just a way to ghettoize cycling instead of making a statement that it is a mainstream means of transportation.							Yes			
I support library expansion as soon as possible. Also the city should join Bikeshare.					Yes		Yes			
I SUPPORT NO CAPITAL EXPENDITURE THAT REQUIRES RATE INCREASE ABOVE THE PRESENT OUTRAGEOUSLY HIGH TAX RATE.	No									
I support projects that will spur business in the City, such as the project at Broad and West Streets. I also support public facilities, such as library and school renovations or upgrades. I would be willing to pay tax increases for any of these. I'm confident other projects, all meaningful, will work themselves out.		Yes			Yes					
I support the plan for the schools if it mean the high school. I don't think we need to put immediate additions on the grade schools. The children are small and happy and I think though it may be less than ideal, they can handle the space issue. The high school needs the most				Yes						

improvement in the shortest amount of time. Thank you.										
I think city and school employees should have good facilities to work in. I think we need to invest additionally in these areas after many years of neglect. Other than that, everything else should be maintained at the current standard.				Yes	Yes					
I think Falls church should have an ice rink and a public pool (perhaps as part of high school expansion).						Yes				
I think it is extremely important to maintain our schools, utility systems, pedestrian routes, and roadways through taxation since these areas are crucial to any modern functioning city.				Yes				Yes		
I think putting all utilities underground should be a major priority and get rid of all the telephone poles. It would improve the reliability of our electric service which has been a problem in summer storms while making the city more attractive. Storm water management is a major problem and needs significant upgrades. I also believe putting in more sidewalks where there are none, should also be a priority.								Yes		
I think the city has waited too long to take on some of these CIP items which means it will be expensive to do them all in a short period of time. However, I think most people who have moved to the city in the last 10 years can afford them and expects them to be done. People who have lived in the city for a long time have already benefited from not setting aside money for these necessary projects. Long time homeowners have profited greatly with the increase in property values. It is not fair to continue to delay these projects or under fund them - people have moved to Falls Church expecting first class facilities and we're willing to pay for them.	Yes		Yes						Yes	
I think traffic is horrible, we are a pass through on Broad, especially at rush hour, cars going to Tysons area and back. I think residents of the town are using back roads to get around, cutting								Yes		

through neighborhoods for short cuts. And with more building I'm not sure we are equipped for more cars on the road here. We are also losing the small town feel, we once had. I'm not sure how to go about keeping it.										
I think we should only endeavor to do what we can reasonably afford. I don't think the library needs to be expanded. I do not think the high school needs to be replaced. We need to increase the commercial tax base before we commit ourselves to projects that will necessitate a significant property tax increase.		Yes	Yes	No						
I thought with the high taxes that we already pay that the maintenance and improvement projects should already be funded.	Yes		Yes						Yes	
I want to see more spent on non-school capital projects. But if capital projects mean increases in tax increases, I am for the most part against anything other than the essentials and the very highest priorities. Our taxes and tax rate are too high now. The City is crowding out some people who no longer can afford to live here, because they are on fixed or stagnant incomes, which are not keeping pace with rising taxes. The city needs to live within its means. If the city is going to keep spending more and more on schools and needed debt service during a time of anemic economic growth, then there is less disposable income for other needs.	No			No						
I was forced to respond here without reference to any cost or financing data. Thus I placed schools relatively high in importance but said I was unwilling to accept a tax increase if the investment were made within 10 years. That conclusion is necessary, based on my knowledge of what the schools will cost and my being unable to believe that there are sufficient development projects in the works to contribute significantly to that cost within the stated time frame. I also responded that I would be willing to accept a tax increase within 5 - 10 years for	No			Yes						Yes

other CIP items, not necessarily because of a higher ranking of importance in my mind, but because I assume (lacking any stated cost estimates) that their lower costs might suggest a much more modest tax increase than would be necessary to build the schools.										
I was NOT able to enter my rankings of the project; the survey automatically ranked them in the order in which they were listed and would not allow me to change the numbers.										Yes
I would be happy to support city projects that meet CRITICAL city needs. However, expanding the West End Park wasted \$500K and installing clouds in the TJ library wasted thousands...just to name 2. Focus on critical stuff and let the rest get funded in plush years. We pay enough taxes already.	No			No		No				
I would be in favor of renovations to the library, which serves all members of the community. I would also like to see more bus shelters and buses to promote public transportation, and improvements to parks and streams to promote green space and areas for wildlife. However, I am concerned about the ever increasing tax rate which is forcing many of the older citizens out of their homes. I am not in favor of a tax increase to fund any of these projects, and quite frankly the schools already receive too much of the City's budget.	No				Yes	Yes	Yes			
I would like to see more interest in plans for cultural,ie art and history districts and historic preservation of Falls Church versus expansion of more housing and urban areas.										
I would like to see rehabilitation of the bridge over Four Mile Run on North Van Buren Street -- the "temporary" single lane arrangement has been in effect for years and years. Possibly this would require coordinating with Arlington...								Yes		
I would love to see a community pool built.						Yes				

I would prefer to see proper maintenance of existing infrastructure before we build more things we cannot afford to maintain.							Yes	Yes		
I would suggest considering options such as planting, more impervious surfaces, etc. to reduce storm water run-off as compared to large construction projects that are likely to cost more, and are less sustainable in the long term.								Yes		
I would support the inclusion of a city swimming facility within Falls Church. My recommendation is to include this within any new development on the land by metro acquired from Fairfax County.						Yes				
If the Council, Manager and staff cannot make the budget balance with this much remaining in the reserve, they need to be replaced.	No								Yes	
If there is not one already, it could be beneficial for the schools and city government to establish a work group or committee where they can work on finding solutions to their respective problems. Start with the things we can both agree on and that we can cooperate toward working together rather than fighting it out each and every year. This adversarial relationship that currently exists serves no one and only breeds mistrust and discontent. There needs to be a give-and-take from both sides and, little by little, those differences will seem less insurmountable. We would all be able to accomplish so much more if we worked together more. Have a common vision - we can't agree on everything all the time, but we can certainly try to remember we have many shared interests.									Yes	
If we want to make Falls Church livable and local, the right thing to do is to reduce car use. My own ideas about that (narrow, wall off or close Rt.7 & Lee Highway through the city) are a little radical for this city & state but I'll accept any government support of alternative methods of							Yes			

transit including additional taxation to do so. Other elements that enhance the local infrastructure are similarly welcomed.										
If you want a quality place to live and a thriving community--both in terms of human resources and business activity--you have to invest in it. We need to spend now (and tax when necessary) to reap these benefits. Those elderly who have paid off their houses but cannot afford the increased property taxes should have means to tax reduction, supported through taxing on younger people who can afford it.	Yes									
If you want to grow a pedestrian, family friendly cultural and business climate, you need a circulator that goes between E and W Falls Church metro stations and you need parking on the periphery that connects to a pedestrian friendly environment. The parking could be a public, private partnership that also produces a revenue stream for the city. One of the failures of the Mosaic District is the fact that to get to parking you have to drive through areas filled with people walking so traffic backs-up or roads need to be closed during festivals and events in the interest of public safety.		Yes				Yes	Yes			
I'm very tired of everything being about the schools and the schools always thinking that they deserve more money. There should be tax relief for those of a certain age who do not have children in the schools.				No						
In addition to making the city more pedestrian friendly in the higher density areas (which is what I assume we're talking about here), other things should be done to slow speeding vehicles in neighborhoods and many of those vehicles consider stop signs as a mere suggestion. Specifically I live at the intersection of Seaton and Jackson Streets. Many people slow before going through, some stop and some do not even slow. The intersection is large enough for a							Yes	Yes		

roundabout which would slow all traffic and make it a safer intersection for pedestrians - it's a walking route for many TJ students and neighbors. There are certainly other intersections in the city the are large enough for roundabouts. The cost would be building one that would last a number of years and planting a single tree. Surely neighbors would be willing to put in the effort to maintain the landscaping of them.										
In general, I do not support tax rate increases for any other than our schools. The City infrastructure is bloated with too many employees. You need to work with the tax income that is established.	No			Yes						
In order to keep the tax rate or reduce the tax rate, the city needs to cut its government. The city "staff" should undergo an audit to cut all needless waste including city jobs.	No		Yes							
Is that really our only choices, no chance of anything in the CIP without a tax increase? If that truly is the case, I would only support revenue generating improvements such as the business district until it can be paid for. The taxes are already so high and other jurisdictions have far superior high school facilities. If our taxed must go up it better only be for the high school which could be used to expand the parks, library, possible swimming pool, community center. I do not support spending any other CIP money except for the High School. AND I'm saying that with none of my children benefiting they will have graduated. Getting this done will generate income by the 30% additional business land that can add to business tax revenues to return on the investment while frankly our high school is borderline embarrassing for a community that prides itself on education..		Yes		Yes						
Is there a 2034ish plan? Add to it that an objective should be a park or pocket park within 2 1/2 blocks of every resident. W&OD counts.						Yes				

It is about time you got your priorities in order. The fact that about 1/3 of the city voted against the school bond should tell you something -- you are building our schools wrong and wasting money in the FCCPS. FCCPS is a priority, but the priorities of the FCCPS are out of whack. And there is too much incompetence in leadership positions, such as the Superintendent and Principal of MEH. The principal of MEH can't even park in one parking spot that is specifically reserved for her -- she has to take up 2 spots. There is no long range planning when it comes to FCCPS. It is is all Tom Thumb in the Dyke short term solutions that waste taxpayer money. An entire new school for 1 grade that is not even generally open to the public on a residential street? What a waste. That is what trailers are for. TJ is open only 1 year before it outgrows its addition (which was not completed timely either). Incompetence.				No					Yes	
It is difficult to suggest general categories and tie them to a tax rate increase in 5 or 10 years w/o being able to compare comparable projects. I rated upgrades to gov't facilities as fairly low, but this does not mean I do not want a great library, it just suggests maybe we don't need a top 5% library.										Yes
It would be great if the City could eventually get connected with Capital Bike share along the W&OD trail. Also, relatively cheap signage, bike lanes, and sharrows, such as those installed last year, are really helpful from a safety perspective. Those sorts of improvements also encourage cyclists from other parts of the DC region to check out local Falls Church businesses on their rides.							Yes			
It would be nice to see specialty small stores in the area. It seems there is a lot of empty business space and we are not able to capitalize on it. If retails stores could be part of the huge expansion I bet economy would improve. I do not think we need any more apartments		Yes								

space/residences. You would just contribute to overcrowding the schools.										
It's hard to answer the tax rate question without knowing the magnitude of the anticipated change. Also unclear is whether additional revenue is contemplated for the "Utilities" piece when the new stormwater fee has only recently been implemented. The City should make sure to keep up on maintenance of infrastructure so that it doesn't deteriorate. The endless problems with Metro are largely a result of management and regional governments failing to keep up with maintenance needs, and now the system is crumbling from excessive deferred maintenance. GMHS is going to need to be replaced in the foreseeable future. And if more projects are approved that provide high density housing in the City, it should be no surprise that our high quality school system faces continued enrollment growth. The schools must be given the resources and facilities to cope with the increased enrollments that are brought about by development plans outside their control.				Yes			Yes	Yes		
Just dont have another year of 5, 6, 7 or 8% effective tax increases. Live within your means. Everything is not always need to be done right now. Reign in the schools, that will leave additional funding for these types of capital projects in the annual budget. Also, be more creative - like you are looking at the land the Middle School and High School sit on - find projects that with creative financing do not add a burden to the tax rates bourn by the citizens. Bottom line - stop raising our taxes.	No	Yes		No						
Land use decisions are the most important as such decisions have eternal impact on the city. We should attempt to acquire more land for citizen use and should avoid, at all costs, selling precious little citizen owned land we have.		Yes								
Library - renovation is necessary. Expansion not as important.					Yes					

Library functions poorly due to so many discrete additions. HVAC doesn't work for same reason. Numerous major and minor ADA issues. I'm sick of the SB's attitude that they come first. Schools are too richly funded. Give equal priority to services for ALL citizens.				No	Yes					
Library improvement and expansion is important					Yes					
Library improvements are very important and should be a high priority. Parking facilities continue to be needed desperately in the core area of Falls Church around the Rt. 7/U.S. 29 intersection, and along and adjacent to Park Avenue near the library and City Hall complex. Someplace to serve as a visitor information center, even just in a Broad Street storefront if available, as well as a large sign/map in a prominent location showing the business area and businesses of particular interest to visitors (such as restaurants and retail stores) would also be extremely valuable for the city's long-term growth and success.					Yes		Yes			
Library, city hall, and other government building projects need to be low on the priority lists -they are just fine as is. What makes Falls Church City special and desirable, especially for young families which are an increasing demographic, are the schools and walkability of the area. Focus on the schools, parks, and having nice local businesses in walking distance!!		Yes		Yes	No	Yes				
Light the bike path! Too many people walk on it without lights in dark clothes after dark. I use it to commute. Even some bike riders do not have lights. it is dangerous. Just a few low level lights would be very helpful, not aiming light up to the sky but just onto the path. Some of the city rights of way are hard to use because people block them. It would be good to let other citizens know where they are, or are supposed to be, so they do not get stuck walking on what they think is a path that ends in nothingness. If they are city rights of way, they should be available to all citizens. Community gardens would be good too if there is any city land near						Yes	Yes			

the bike path that could be shared. Not well publicized if there is, but I do remember there were gardens there in the past.										
Lincoln Park still has drainage issues. Lincoln Avenue still has way too many commuters speeding down the road and is in need of traffic calming measures (median, curbs, landscape, designated bike lane) Lincoln Avenue should have a designated bike lane. When it turns into Fairfax Drive, it does have one (Arlington County) Our schools, including crosswalks around them and the bus stops, are number one priority. Pedestrian walkways and improvements followed by making the City more bicycle-friendly are next in line.						Yes		Yes		
Maintain and add new planter boxes on power/other poles on Broad Street.										
Maintain and improve City Hall buildings and adjacent parkland and Rec. Center as a priority; lease extra space in nearby buildings if justified. Never consider relocating! With the nearing completion of the Harris Teeter complex, opportunity to revitalize the 100-200 block of W Broad St has never been more promising. Think outside the box to accelerate the emergence of a core Falls Church entertainment and retail area. Upgrading this stretch is key to building community allegiance and avoiding absorption of FC into Arlington County. Pruning of trees and shrubs around City Hall area is 5 to ten years overdue. Be careful to keep the expanding pressure of education demands in prudent check.		Yes		No	Yes					
Maintaining and expansion of parks and open spaces. Rebuild turf field at GM						Yes				
Money for all of these issues should have been included in every budget ever produced since the City was incorporated. The responsibility of the City has always been to maintain essential structures and needs, such as the drains and roads and school buildings every year, not ignore									Yes	

these needs for 50 years and then act all surprised when they literally fall apart on the citizens and students, and cripple citizens with increased taxes to cover such expenses. Anything above these needs, such as pouring money into making the City pretty, or focusing on being the best environmental city, having Christmas lights, is frivolous. The City is famous, and a local laughing-stock, for wasting money on redundant studies and never doing anything with the results. In addition, the City ignores the needs of the poor beyond those mandated by the federal government, and indeed has actually thrown families into poverty because it takes citizen's money that should be spent on food and medicine and housing for its own devices. The City fines people who haven't the money to maintain their property, but refuses to fulfill federal and state law by maintaining disability requirements and school building safety and thinks that's perfectly okay. Perhaps the City would respond to citizen's needs if the DOJ were asked to review certain City practices and expenditures.										
More lighting to deter crime is a priority.								Yes		
More parks, the library expansion, anything to improve walkability, and better bus service would all be good					Yes	Yes				
More sidewalks to make it more walkable. Have sidewalks that connect to the W&OD bike trail from all sides. From Lincoln ave, need to cross Great Falls at an odd angle to remain on the sidewalk only to have to cross great falls again at the W&OD trail to go south (or east) on the trail. Have bike racks at more locations throughout town -- would this be up to each individual business? I don't ride my bike to do errands because I can't be sure there is a bike rack.						Yes	Yes	Yes		
More specifically than just saying "Parks" - it's our playgrounds that are poor. They are some of the poorest in the Northern Virginia area.						Yes				

More street lights should be added to the cross sections on West Broad street. Traffic lights are not bright enough on these cross sections. Often when a car is making a turn on these cross sections, the driver cannot see a pedestrian who is also making a cross because there is no street light there except a traffic light.								Yes		
MRS Library needs to be way high up on list of priorities					Yes					
My concern is the profligate spending by previous Boards and the resulting increases to the tax rate. We just can't afford to raise the rate an more. DO YOU HEAR ME? Revenue to the city will go up keeping the rate unchanged, you are pricing my family out of the city. No more rate increases.	No									
My top priority is a new high school. My second priority is maintaining or increasing the number and variety of sports/recreational facilities available to the community.				Yes		Yes				
My understanding is that stormwater improvements are the most pressing need. I support investment in the schools, but do not get into them frequently enough to know whether they need work right now. I think the Library needs attention, and I also think pedestrian safety and bike lanes could be improved. Part of the issue in doing this survey is that it seems to me the costs of the different components would vary widely so it makes it harder to compare them....e.g. Painting a bike lane is not as big a deal as ripping out a sewer system.								Yes		
My vision of FCC is that Route 7 becomes like King St in Alexandria - a destination point full of shops and restaurants that people outside our city regularly visit and pour their \$\$ into. A component of that is increased sidewalks throughout our little city so that local pedestrians, and kids!, can more safely get around without driving their cars. Another component is bringing back regular transit between the metro stations and the heart of the city, to reduce the # of cars and		Yes					Yes			

make the destination area accessible to carless DC-dwellers.										
N/A										
Need a new Police Department!!!!!!										
need to change priorities in order to bring back the DMV "light" office. It benefited everyone.										
Need to develop infrastructure to attract business to offset the residential tax rate and alleviate traffic congestion on side streets and on Route 7 and 29 through the city. A new High School building and athletic facilities (stadium) are needed as soon as possible as this infrastructure is in continuous use by the community.		Yes								
Need to plan for renovations to GM high school, and need additional park space especially if we can support any additional baseball fields.				Yes		Yes				
New bus shelters, pedestrian improvements, bike sharing is all great but it will be useless in the winter if you do not enforce the regulations for shoveling snow. All along both sides of Washington, the businesses never shovel making walking or riding the bus dangerous to impossible. And the city is missing out on revenue by not ticketing.							Yes			
No comments										
No more tax increases.	No									
No tax increase....period	No									
No tax increases, even for the school. Especial not for schools!	No			No						
None noted										

Not all of these items must be paid for by tax increases. Improvements to City parks and fields could be paid for by proffers from developers.		Yes								
Obviously we need to take care of maintenance (e.g., storm water, road repair, utility repair and replacement) needs first to maintain or improve essential infrastructure. We need to upgrade our schools and government facilities, since most of the population uses these. Park upgrades are a nice-to0have, but not as essential as other items I've listed.				Yes	Yes			Yes		
Of the various projects mentioned, the most urgent is replacement of the turf field at George Mason HS. This is essential for safety and insurance purposes. The turf field not only is used by the schools to an extraordinary degree, but is utilized by the entire community for recreational sports leagues and other purposes. Its replacement is due, and must be covered in the current budget now under consideration. The schools come next, and I support a tax increase for what is needed by the schools, as I do for replacement of the turf field.	Yes			Yes						
Our city desperately needs a new high school, and I support tax increases needed to accomplish this goal, along with funds from economic development.	Yes			Yes						
Our family moved to the City of Falls Church this past September and we choose the City for two main reasons: 1. schools 2. walkability. We walk over a mile to school with our children almost every day. That said, we love the new development that is occurring in Falls Church, but are concerned about whether the City will be able to keep up the surrounding paths and sidewalks so that the new areas are pedestrian friendly and beautiful. Much of our current walk to school is on the Cavalier Trail and it's such an asset to the City, but does need some repairs to keep it safe. Additionally, the last part of our walk involves crossing the intersection at 29 and Annandale. Several crosswalk signals are missing, yet there are always pedestrians crossing				Yes				Yes		

there.										
Our focus should be schools, community infrastructure and small business preservation and development.		Yes		Yes				Yes		
Our human scaled infrastructure (sidewalks, parks, bike paths, bike lanes) is in such a sad state compared to nearby jurisdictions. It's as if our citizens are not expected to get around the city, except in their cars. These should have been improved long before we started adding high density housing. FCC residents regularly drive for local trips, even those that are less than a mile in distance, because walking and cycling are dangerous, inconvenient, and unpleasant here. Instead of a small town look and feel, forcing residents to stay in their cars makes our "city" look and feel more like a large and crowded strip mall parking lot than the village it claims to be. Every street needs a sidewalk on both sides. Every street needs a provision for bicycles (whether a separate lane, or a plan for sharing a lane with cars). We need safe connections to the W&OD. We need safe crossings of West St and Broad St for pedestrians, including our children on their way to school. Every park and every business area needs a safe place to lock a bicycle. Every large apartment or condo needs a bike share close by.							Yes	Yes		
Our most significant infrastructure need is for a public parking facility in the downtown area. We desperately need parking so that people can support the businesses we have, and FC can attract new businesses!							Yes			
Our parks are one of most ignored resources, and will help every aspect of our economy. Purchase of open space for rectangular fields as well as connectivity is a must.						Yes				
Our roads are terrible. That is the only priority I semi-support.								Yes		

Our schools are our city's flagship resource; our library is our city's heartbeat. Both need our attention and priority.				Yes	Yes					
Our taxes are already out of this world way too high. The homeowners are bearing all of the burden of these "improvements", and it is getting ridiculous. To us, it looks like you are looking for ways to spend money and then throwing the burden of these unimportant projects onto our backs. Please stop. Work within your budget, and look for ways to cut costs to offer us some tax relief!	No									
Our taxes are too high. The reason people live in Falls Church IS NOT THE SCHOOLS. It's convenience to Arlington, McLean, and DC. The small community makes our schools great - not necessarily the funding per student. People here care a lot about the education of their children, so they pitch in. That makes schools great. Not money and higher taxes.	No			NO						
Overall I support work for public spaces, but they are in pretty good condition in the city today. I would mostly like to see them maintained at this level.										
Parking garage so people that leave elsewhete can visit the businesses in the city. This spending by others is needed to support those of us that live in The Little City. The residents of the city can increase our walking and biking however those who live outside of the city will come by car. Look at Shirlington, Mosaic District, Reston.							Yes			
Parking, in general. And parking, specifically, at the Library.							Yes			
Parking. The city needs to invest in parking for all the shops popping up. Without adequate parking the tow companies will be the only ones profiting from all the city's expansion. Make the city commuable to those that DRIVE into the city the shop. Poor parking options force people to find other locales to shop. Merrifield Mosaic has PLENTY of parking without the risk of ones car							Yes			

being poached by aggressive towing. Without more 'safe' parking options people will not DRIVE to shop in the city. I have not shopped in the city for 2 years after being towed from a questionably marked parking spot. Others have also suffered the same fate. Check out YouTube for live aggressive towing in the city of falls church.										
Parks need to viewed as an extremely important component in the overall health of the community. They have practical, aesthetic and economic value. Parks seem to be an afterthought. Maintenance, while not part of this survey, is not up to what one would expect from Forbes Magazine's wealthiest community. Future developers need to contribute --- just as they do for schools. We pride ourselves on our schools, pat ourselves on the back when we get a high ranking in a national survey (of dubious social science) and end up attracting more and more families with children. And, that's great. We have terrific schools and teachers -- who wouldn't want to move here? And, yet, we can't keep up with recreational facilities that adequately serve our population. We need more fields, parks that have more facilities and, overall, much more in the way of recreational opportunities.		Yes				Yes				
People with private-school money should pay to send their kids to private school instead of increasing the tax-rate so that only the wealthy can afford to live in this town.	No									
Planning and budgeting for projects needs to be done, not on pay as you go plan.									Yes	
Please address Mason High school sooner rather than later. Too much focus has been placed on the elementary schools when we have a world class high school in such a state of disrepair. Look at the other area high schools in Arlington and Fairfax. The Mason building is an embarrassment to our community.				Yes						

Please do not raise taxes! We have very high tax rates already plus stormwater fees. Rising property values increases tax revenue passively anyhow. We need to find other ways to fund capital improvements.	No									
Please don't let the Mr Daniel project disrupt the need to address MEH and GMHS. The library should stay at its future location. I don't understand the parking concern. With the exception of during Farmers Market hours, I have never had problems parking there. It's central location also means that many of us walk there when the weather is good.				Yes			No			
Please don't let the school board bully the city into dropping everything else to put every resource into the schools!				No						
Please ensure that the City's future capital infrastructure adequately incorporates environmental sustainability priorities, including energy efficiency and sustainable design. Certain future infrastructure investments should also prioritize resilience in the face of the intensifying impacts of climate change (eg stronger storms, greater rainfall, etc).			Yes							
Please fund the already approved pedestrian and traffic improvements for Pennsylvania Ave. Thank you.								Yes		
Please fund the traffic calming plan which has already been approved. We need this work done soon. Thank you								Yes		
Please let the financing and support of the schools fall back under the purview of FCPS. It is far too great a burden for the City of Falls Church.				No						
Please limit tax increases.	No					Yes				
Please plan to replace the turf field at GMHS.										
Please resist any "improvement" plan that proposes brick sidewalks and/or curbcuts. This										

porous surrface becomes dangerous for able bodied pedestrians and lethal for the infirm in inclement weather										
Please think carefully about how you are spending the taxpayer dollars. Please consider spending only what is necessary right now, and saving the rest for when it is truly needed. The safety and health of the residents should be the primary concern, not coming up with "neat-o" projects that will deflate any reserve funds and cause our tax rate to increase further. Focus on "capital maintenance" for once, and not unnecessary "improvements" that will only inflate either our tax rate, our real estate assessment, or both. Think about the money you are spending as if it is your own savings and investment, because it is that of the citizens, and should not be squandered.	No								yes	
Please work on the Cherry Street intersections with Hillwood and Route 7. Support walking and consider a circulator bus to encourage people to walk and ride to get to destinations in Falls Church.								Yes		
Please work with all the various utility companies before any roadwork. Seems like many times we just finish repaving a roadway and it is smooth as glass, then two weeks later somebody is digging it up.								Yes		
Poor bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. Most streets are dangerous for riders and walkers. Intersections are pedestrian unfriendly. Lack of bus stop shelters makes bus commuting all but impossible during the winter.							Yes			
Priority should be on the capital infrastructure needs related to inherently governmental functions, e.g., providing roads, schools, and parks. Public-private partnerships should be explored for capital infrastructure improvement where such partnerships make sense.				Yes		Yes		Yes		

Public safety agencies need better facilities.										
Public schools seem to be the sole public service offered -- to any meaningful degree -- by the City of Falls Church. For whatever reasons, the city can't seem to get over the hump of over reliance on property taxes to fund our city services. The population growth in the City of Falls Church and our chronic failure to improve our management of city services, coupled with the sophistication of Arlington County and the exceptional facilities and services offered by the county, I strongly support a merger with Arlington County. Our stand-alone status does not bring benefits sufficient to justify the independent status. Our independence has outlived its purpose.				No						
really a public swimming pool is more needed than new parking for the library. honestly, people can walk to the library. there is plenty of parking on the street or walk from their home.					No	Yes				
Really hoping there is a new HS soon! (With a pool!)				Yes						
renovated city offices and a library upgrade, and storm water improvements should be have high priority. Building a new high school should not even be talked about until all the current projects in the city (Tinner Hill, Harris Teeter and the West End Spectrum project are completed so we can see what their impact on the city's tax base is.					Yes			Yes		
Renovation and expansion of George Mason HS should be a priority (and figuring out how to do it without a long displacement of the students). Addressing stormwater issues to alleviate flooding is also paramount for me.				Yes						
Replace the turf field at George Mason HS.						Yes				
Replacing the high school should be a top priority. It should have a pool. And money should be				Yes						

borrowed now while interest rates are still low. School is only thing that I would support tax increase for, but that should not be necessary. Taxes here are already way too high compared to neighboring communities										
Safe bycycle paths, sidewalks, benches,							Yes	Yes		
Safety First. I strongly oppose the use of brick in city sidewalks because it gets icy at a higher temperature than concrete. It can take you by surprise. We do not have businesses that are committed to keeping sidewalks passable at all times. As a pedestrian in the city, I do not like the surprise of slipping on the decorative bricks between squares of concrete. Please invest in sidewalks that offer maximum safety! The aesthetics can be added with the trees and shrubbery next to the sidewalks.								Yes		
Schools anchor communities and are the surest mechanism for sustainability of property values, which determine tax revenues. Schools and their health and programs should be our city's top priority.				Yes						
Schools and pedestrian walkways are the priority. Get rid of all the crappy run down businesses along route seven and make it look more like mosaic district.				Yes				Yes		
Schools and roads are vital.				Yes				Yes		
Schools should be first, then traffic management and transit.				Yes			Yes			
Schools should be the only reason to raise tax rates-- everything else should be done within our means or through appropriate long term financing				Yes						
separate the police station, they are out of space, start your own paid fire department stop wasting money to Arlington and rely more on fcvfd to cover staffing at the fire house if a new					Yes					

Falls Church Fire Dept is formed. provide more dispatchers and fire marshals as well.										
Sidewalks remain absent on many streets--I draw your attention to Roosevelt between Broad and Sycamore which is a HIGHLY used motorway to and from the metro--there are no sidewalks. Ft. Tylor Park is an embarrassment. The homeless sleep there and the sign is almost unreadable it is so ill maintained. If the city is not going to care for the area, then take the sign down and let it go wild (which it is anyway). Foks in the community love to walk and ride--make it easy for them while reducing traffic and pollution. The library needs to be expanded. The remaining buildings are serviceable.					Yes	Yes		Yes		
Smaller, efficient government. Eliminate pension plans for government workers or start phasing them out NOW. Partner with the private sector (businesses with offices in Falls Church) to figure out how we are going to avoid bankruptcy because we are stuck paying pensions to the future 80 and 90 year old retired bureaucrats for the work they did during the Carter administration. And speaking of mircofiche, (a word so old, it's not even in spell-check), let's revisit the whole purpose for having a library, let alone expanding it. Until younger generations tell us how it's going to ACTUALLY be in the future, the library serves mainly as a museum for historical documents. Do NOT expand, improve, build, move or rebuild the Library. Future generations are not going to check out library books, go there for internet access, or browse through the "Virginia Room" or whatever that morgue in the basement is called that is never open and hidden behind closed venetian blinds. I have wonderful childhood memories of the library - back when we didn't have book stores, Starbucks, something called "The Internet," iPads, smart phones, Kindles and Amazon.com. I have wonderful childhood memories of carriage rides through Central Park too, but we have "horseless carriages" now. They closed	No	Yes							Yes	

<p>the last buggy whip store 1910. Let's take a lesson from history on this one regarding the library. When the Psychic Palm Reader Store and the Gold Exchange Shack finally close shop - think about how we can attract top-notch commercial businesses NOW in anticipation of those golden opportunities so when that happens, they can arrive with beautifully planned blueprints of shops, restaurants, professional buildings, stores, boutiques, all incorporated with the latest green technology. If we are more open to the reality that we're going to have to build a mini-Clarendon with all the bells and whistles so we can attract the youthful masses who will bike and not drive here to spend their money, then we won't have to settle for another "Flower" building in our apparent quest to becoming like the cartoon township where the talking Octopus, "Oswald" lives. We should never put ourselves in a position like the one we were in, when Harris Teeter took their million dollar cash incentive off the table and threatened to leave Falls Church, because some narcissist elected bureaucrat refuses to negotiate reasonably with those who want to take invest in our future. Do NOT build any new government building unless that is a school and only if we continue to excel and sustain our great school system. Invest LESS on physical structures by making government SMALLER then spend the savings retaining good teachers with competitive salaries. Keep the high growth, high quality commercial zones where they belong - downtown - and use the increased revenue to fix our water flooding issues, preserve the environment, plant more trees, maintain our parks, create our bike paths, calm our neighborhood traffic and lower our tax burden on the home-owners who can't sustain the current tax and spend approach.</p>										
<p>Some of these may be useful, and should be paid from existing tax revenue. Many seem to be merely options to see what may allow the city to justify yet another tax hike.</p>	No								Yes	

Start spending down some of the reserve funds that FC has before imposing higher taxes. FC tax rates are higher than comparable areas in the region already. Fiscal management and priorities should be the focus for the city.	No								Yes	
STOP RAINING TAXES!!!	No									
Stormwater infrastructure is top priority and essential. It is a safety and environmental issue, and flooding negatively impacts property values throughout the City. Schools are next priority since they are the keystone of our community (and property values) and we owe it to our children to provide the best education and learning environment possible. Our parks and playing fields are too few and poorly maintained (embarassing!). Non-automotive modes of transportation (pedestrian and cycling) are about quality of life. Same can be said for improving streetscape in business areas to make it more appealing to businesses, City residents etc. Paving roads, traffic lights etc., govt. buildings and an extra vehicle seem like lowest priority.								Yes		
Tax rates are far too high at the moment. The city must organize and prioritize to function within the current rates, and reduce them as soon as possible.	No									
Taxes are already so high we are considering moving out of Falls Church. Contrary to apparent perception as promoted by News Press, not everyone in Falls Church is wealthy enough to absorb never ending tax increases, even for worthy projects.	No									
Taxes are too high. Someone needs to get expenses under control. It's called living within your means. You don't get everything you always want and yes, people are going to complain. Leaders job is to make tough decisions.	No									
Thank you for asking for our opinions and thoughts. Our taxes are the highest in the area and careful consideration must be given before raising taxes. We should concentrate on executing	No									

our fiduciary responsibilities instead of raising taxes.										
<p>Thank you for taking the time to undertake a survey. The questions are reasonable and point ranking an acceptable methodology. If there is some way to indicate a strong or weak preference it might be useful. Perhaps this was covered by asking for tax rate timing preference.</p> <p>I remain concern about sample bias. The schools, no doubt, are making sure that the survey is filled out with school capital expenses being number 1 After the FCCPS Announcements provide an outreach that families without children don't have. I hope you can compensate for this inherent bias.</p>										No
<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue. Just a few thoughts on some of the big projects in the works, now that the Mt. Daniel referendum is behind us. First, I support the current plans to renovate City Hall. As for the library, I absolutely support a renovation, but I question the need for an expansion. (One thought there: if the needs/purpose of a public library have changed, is it really necessary to continue to house the existing physical collection of books? Fewer books housed -- or maybe taller stacks of shelves as a compromise -- might free up space for new needs.) The parks are important, though one pet peeve of mine is Crossman Park: the playground equipment there is woefully outdated and probably a little dangerous (Arlington's Banneker Park is literally right across the street, anyway), and it drains poorly. Is there a better use of that parkland? I also support a new George Mason facility as part of the redevelopment efforts for all that land. (I don't think there's a rush to do so, but we should have a new school there within the next decade.) As an aside, let me say that continued economic development is important. I support the Broad/West proposal. It's not perfect, but we shouldn't let the perfect get in the way of the good.</p>				Yes	Yes					

The area is dangerous for pedestrians and bikers. The city manager only seems interested in maintaining the flow of traffic through our residential neighborhoods.							Yes	Yes		
The City exists for its citizens and not for its schools.				No						
The City government and School Board need to explain much more clearly and in much greater detail why the proposed capital infrastructure expenditures are necessary or desirable, and why less expensive alternatives are infeasible or undesirable. It's difficult to support these expenditures--and very difficult to support tax increases to fund them-- because of the paucity of detail and lack of transparency.									Yes	
The City Hall complex has been ignored for too long! It is time to fix the building and/or to replace it. Basic transportation, by foot, by bike, and/or by vehicle are needed throughout the City The business areas within the City need improvements such as better lighting, wider sidewalks (some of which could be used for outdoor dining and/or display of merchandise), plants/trees, and barriers between pedestrians and motorists..					Yes		Yes	Yes		
The City has no baseball diamonds for youth. All of the hundreds of Falls Church City kids who play youth baseball have to rely on Fairfax County. Clearly space in the City is dear but not one field for an activity that is played by so many?						Yes				
The city is going to need a lot of infrastructure due to pressure on city services/funding needs b/c of all the new development that is occurring in the city.		No						Yes		
The City needs a comprehensive transportation plan that includes a bicycle master plan and a pedestrian master plan.							Yes			
The city needs more community type space. I would love to see the new land put to use for an aquatic center or something that can be used by the community (with park area). Having ball						Yes				

field that could be used and walking trails would be awesome.										
<p>The City needs to get a grip on spending. This is a small municipality. You cannot fund every good idea every year. Concentrate on the schools. They are the only reason the city exists.</p> <p>Declare a moratorium on any development that increases the density of the population until you can show there is NO impact to the schools.</p>	No									
<p>The City needs to hold the tax rate steady. Tax receipts will still go up as housing goes up. NO INCREASE TO THE RATE - EVEN FOR SCHOOLS</p>	No			No						
<p>The city needs to stop wasting money on wish list items from within the power structure and start listening to its citizenry. I witness the boondoggle on Cherry Street every day and it is a reminder of just how insane the spending priorities of the city are. I also attempt to walk the sidewalks, one of the reasons I moved here was that I thought I could walk and bike with my family throughout the city. What I've found is a place that does not even meet basic ADA compliance in its sidewalks, where many times my twins' stroller has to be physically lifted over obstructions or taken into the street (!) Focus should be on the other reasons that families find a place to live hospitable in addition to schools. Affordability, walkability, bike safety, aesthetics all matter too. The fact is, and is often ignored, that the primary reason that our schools rate well is that the populations is comprised of families that enrich the lives of our students outside the classroom. So rather than using the focus we place on educating our kids as a license to waste money on vanity projects, use it to prioritize thrift and community friendly improvements.</p>							Yes	Yes		
<p>the City needs to work on the appearance of the main thoroughfare thru town -- Broad St. It is unsightly. City planners should look at realigning the entire city center with pedestrian and retail</p>		Yes						Yes		

shops within walking distance of the main city buildings -- create a real downtown with a town square as a destination that is pedestrian friendly. Look at the long term and really solve for FCC instead of piece-mealing it together. Great a town square between Great Falls, VA ave, Park and Little Falls and re-align the whole area to be a meeting, shopping, civic place.										
The city of Falls Church has increased its taxes on homeowners disproportionately over the last 4 years. The CITY MUST - 1. Focus on creating an economic development plan which will realistically bring in additional tax funds. Saying that all the new development will bring in new businesses while George Mason Square has laid idle for the past 10 years is ridiculous! Hire a new economic development and small business team to help build this city! As a tax payer I will not pay for a team that doesn't perform. You all were hire/elected to make these tough decisions. Do it. 2. Stop letting run down properties lay idle for years. The strip mall across from the Old Falls Church is an absolute disgrace. It should be condemned and torn down. This city looks like a dump but every week in the News Press we hear how we are the richest city in the US. That is laughable, again, the city looks like a dump. There is absolutely no SAFE pedestrian walkway in this city. 3. Invest in a city that is walk worthy and safe. That attracts residents and businesses alike. You don't have to become Arlington to be able to learn from them. They have done an excellent job. If there are regulations in place to allow for a certain distance from the front of a building to route 7 or Broad Street - keep those regulations in place or increase them? The latest I heard was the Harris teeter project was allowed to modify that rule/regulation to their benefit! This is absolutely unacceptable to me as a taxpayer. 4. Stop handing out business licenses to the latest yogurt chain, massage parlor etc...BE SMART!!!!!! I think you'd be very surprised how many residents are disgusted with the little city.	No	Yes								

The city seems to be in good condition. There are ample parks and sidewalks are easy to traverse. The city government seems adequate and the school's seem exemplary. Keep up the good work.										
The establishment of a toy library would be great as would free wifi in city parks.					Yes	Yes				
The excellence of the schools is what draw most people to the City of Falls Church. I don't understand why so many residents have antagonistic feelings towards the schools when they're delivering such an excellent product. The continued excellence of the schools us what will keep Falls Church vital.				Yes						
The George Mason new high school project should be the highest priority.				Yes						
The groupings within categories make some choices more difficult than others. For instance, I think the library is more important than others in that category but overall the category is less important than my top three choices.					Yes					Yes
The high school is crumbling. It's a shame that the City leadership has let it get so bad, and now students are suffering. I'm sure we won't have long to wait until the first chunk of ceiling falls in a classroom, or we hear of students who aren't able to fit in classroom because of overcrowding, and have to sit in hallway or auxiliary space and watch their classroom via video screen.				Yes						
The High School needs to be fast tracked - it is appalling and most likely doesn't meet code.				Yes						
The High School should definitely be the next project to be completed. It is badly in need of replacement.				Yes						
The items that I marked I not supporting a tax increase seem to me to be regular maint and should not require tax increases. On the schools, the reason I had that as a high priority is				Yes					Yes	

because of the condition of GM. I am disappointed that this has not been addressed in years past so my children will not see a new high school. I understand the needs that have been more immediate at the elementary level however since some construction has been done at both Mt D and TJ in the last 10 years, I am disappointed that those additions were not enough to satisfy the needs today/near term future.										
The library could use expansion and updating. It would be great do devote a portion of new library space for a museum to display historical artifacts about Falls Church. Betty Styles asked for his many decades ago! Let's get going!					Yes					
The library is awesome. Do not screw the library up					Yes					
The library needs more parking.							Yes			
The library plans are perplexingly expensive for the proposed benefits. Surely more basic services could be addressed with those funds.					No					
The Library, City Hall, stormwater issues, and streetscape are my priorities.					Yes			Yes		
The library, GMHS and storm water system are all in need of upgrades NOW.				Yes	Yes			Yes		
The pedestrian bridge on the trail that crosses Route 7 near West needs attention.								Yes		
The planning for schools in the city is completly unacceptable. how can you build a new huge addition and then still require trailers to be brought in the very next year at TJ. You built a brand new school, MEH, and it is not large enough. You should have used the pierson sq plot for the middle school instead of always putting schools outside of city limits. we have had property available. a developer is planning a development in the center of town, but that is where the high				No						

<p>school should be built. and then sell the high school plot afterword. please do a better job the next time you do something like this and don't consider selling off the high school property or any city property. the city needs property. our park and open space is not adequate. please require developers to have open space in their plans. When you are adding housing units, this means more students. this is not rocket science. you can even calculate the number of students per unit now and use that number. please don't assume that only single tenants with no children will move in. stop giving developers so many perks and infrastructure. they are skimming profits from the city constantly.</p>										
<p>The quality of life in the City of Falls Church is what makes it so attractive, and that definitely includes public schools and other amenities. All of the items listed are important and it was hard to rank, but I'd say the schools and parks are highest on my list.</p>				Yes		Yes				
<p>The question about renovations of city buildings was worded in such a way that I could not select some projects I think are more important than others, e.g. I support the library renovation and expansion and keeping the community center in good condition. However, rather than expand or renovate City Hall, I propose that many of their offices could be relocated to space that is apparently available in Mason Row.</p>		Yes		Yes						
<p>The rate of growth in the tax rate has exceeded inflation and population for far too long. Curb spending, live within the current rate - or a lower rate if valuations continue to increase. We do always have to be building more, improving more, spending more. You are pricing families out of the city.</p>	No									
<p>The schools are an integral part of what makes the city attractive. Without making schools a priority, the city will lose its appeal, further eroding the tax base. Schools should be central to</p>				Yes					Yes	

budget planning and allocation. No one comes to the city for the parks or the government buildings or the businesses. People can easily satisfy their needs for those amenities elsewhere. If tax increases are directly tied to schools, you'll have broad support.										
The schools are the top priority. I would support other capital investments as well. I also think the city needs to be made more pedestrian friendly, and that includes better facilities and much more of a police focus on speeding on residential streets.				Yes						
The schools do not deserve any priority funding. Support the needs of all citizens.				No						
The schools should not be a sacred cow.				No						
The sidewalk and pedestrian crosswalk situation on N. West St. needs to be addressed. Several children must cross N. West St. to walk to school bus stops without a crosswalk. A child was hit by a car on N. West st in front of my home, luckily he was not hurt. Raised crosswalks (or at a minimum, striping) should be added along N. West St at the Highland and Greenwich intersections. The intersection of N. West and Great Falls needs attention especially in light of the Mason Row development. The intersection needs a left turn arrow for those turning left from N. West to Great Falls as the traffic backs up along N. West St morning and afternoon. I noticed that this intersection was not included in the traffic report related to the new Mason Row development.								Yes		
The sidewalk at the point where South Maple meets South Washington / 29 feels like a death trap. I wish the sidewalk area could be expanded. My family has to walk inland through the grass to feel safe near the street here. Also, except for the Virginia Auto repair folks (who are great) the other car businesses at the mouth of West Westmoreland Road do not seem respectful of								Yes		

the residential neighborhood in which they operate. It might help to build a more pedestrian oriented sidewalk (instead of the current parking lot) in from of the auto showroom on 29. Also, in front of West Westmoreland, signs to announce the residential neighborhood may help. In addition, out of state cars are constantly parked on this street for longer than the allotted time without city stickers. Parking rules should be enforced here.										
The state of high school is embarrassing. An immediate redo of the high school should be done ASAP.				Yes						
The turf field at GMHS must be replaced. The field is used not only by FCC citizens, but many outside our community. It is a central part of the physical school footprint. We need it fixed!!						Yes				
the turf field at the high school is a priority for this community						Yes				
The W&OD is a great resource to the city and should be treated as such						Yes				
Thee always seem to be "needs", or "crisis" to justify spending more money - especially borrowing more money - which just means we don't have the money now. My bigger concern is that the ever growing tax rate is killing our families. I've lived here my whole adult life and am not sure I can stay because of the dramatic rise in the taxes you are charging me - 7 or 8% increase each year - and now this new tax the rain tax. My fixed income is only going up 2 or 3% each year. what am I supposed to do? go live in these Taj Mahal's you are building and calling pre-schools?	No									
There is no need for tax increases because they are unaffordable already.	No									
There needs to be much better planning for the business districts. Why can't Falls Church be more creative like the Mosaic District, Old Town Alexandria, etc.? It's such a jumble of large		Yes								

<p>build commercial projects which do not give us any community downtown feel. It's a mess.</p> <p>Please think about long-term walkability in the downtown area and not just your biggest short term tax gains. Also, we don't need any more high-density residencies. The traffic and school congestion WILL NOT support it.</p>										
<p>Think about areas OTHER than the schools to attract people to spend their money in FC. I spend A LOT of my money outside of Falls Church (restaurants have gotten better, but have a ways to go) - we have no big box stores, I must go outside for that - we have no movie theater - we have real park attractions that would bring non FC residents in to spend money (no mini golf, no pool, no spray grounds, no skateparks, fewer tennis courts (which always seem to be under construction and 2 were taken away for a PRESCHOOL!), I go to Arlington/Ffx to enjoy amenities such as these! - we have no flagship retailers (apple store, williams sonoma, etc). Again, I go to tysons or arlington for stores like that. We have too many nail salons, dry cleaners and yogurt shops.</p>		Yes		No		Yes				
<p>This is a horribly misleading survey without information on the magnitude of expenses, and also ignoring dedicated funding like for stormwater. Shame on you! We are adults here and capable of balancing competing priorities. Are schools important and should we be spending the majority of our capital budget on them? YES, but also we need to take care of critical infrastructure of all sorts.</p>				Yes				Yes		Yes
<p>This survey does not make any sense. There are changes that will not increase taxes, like bus stop shelters and benches; and costly projects that will require increase of taxes, like renovations to schools.</p>									Yes	Yes
<p>This survey is heavily biased by the wording of the questions. It presumes that no improvements</p>	No	Yes					Yes	Yes		Yes

are possible without increasing taxes which are already considerably higher than neighboring jurisdictions. Why are there no questions about the reallocation of existing resources and bonding capacity? Some of the listed projects don't seem to meet the definition of capital projects, e.g., landscaping, tree maintenance, bike routes and racks. Why can't these kinds of things be funded from the operating budget? We have a new stormwater fee. Isn't this adequate for improvements? The Transit option lists "vehicle purchase for more frequent service." Is this for WMATA or is the city again contemplating its own transit services? My CIP recommendations are to tilt bonding toward Business Area Investments, pedestrian, transit and cycling to increase the tax base and take people out of cars that directly and indirectly consume so many resources. Then we need a balanced view of spending between school and government needs. While it's difficult to forecast the tipping point, we should not assume that citizens will always support school bonds as taxes rise and other pressing needs are unmet.										
This survey regrettably lumps renovations of all city facilities together as if everyone will find city hall, the library, police station, etc. equally important. That's inaccurate. I would potentially support upgrades to the library over the other facilities.					Yes					Yes
Too much focus on the schools to the exclusion of other City needs. The proposed \$100M for a new high school is excessive and unwarranted.				No						
Too much waste on unnecessary upgrades. Taxes are already too high. Fix the roads. Stop wasting money on Cadillac schools and laptops for each child. Live within your budget.	No							Yes	Yes	
Traffic calming on Great Falls Street please.								Yes		
Traffic signal at grove and west intersection and more lights at the trail crossings near that intersection. That area is very dangerous.								Yes		

Under no circumstances should the City of Falls Church have any tax increases. Make use of what you have.	No									
Updating and expanding our schools and access to sidewalks for our children to walk safely to and from school and school bus stops is a top priority in my opinion. Every thing else does not have as much importance				Yes						
Upgrades to George Mason HS should be a top priority!				Yes						
Use funds that are going toward the ridiculous technology leasing of iPads for Mt. Daniel students for capital infrastructure.	No								Yes	
Use our money wisely! I couldn't answer question 1 because the categories were too broad, e.g. City Hall, police station Property Yard and Aurora house all have different priorities to me, and some overlap, e.g. cycling facilities could be under transit, and while I am in favor of much work to support cycling I don't think what I want would cost enough to make it a CIP.	No									Yes
We have a storm water fee - so there shouldn't be a tax increase to pay for such projects. The survey asks if we are willing to have a tax increase for these capital projects - seems like we should be able to cover much of these types of projects without a tax increase. I'd also love to see the City invest in a new library. It is an award winning library that looks old. I love the new Westover library in Arlington and seems to have a similar footprint that we would have in the City. If we are the richest county in the nation, why can't we afford a new library to benefit all citizens?	No				Yes					
We have ignored infrastructure spending for too long. We should get our public works infrastructure on a firm footing before tackling the nice to have's of the 21st century. For example, local transit should continue to be investigated but FC must demonstrate/prove it can							Yes	Yes		

manage those (additional?) services. This is a capacity FCC would have to grow/develop as we don't currently posses the resources.										
We have the areas highest tax rate we should be able to find a way to budget for the necessary expenses while maintaining or even lessening the current rate. I think the city needs to focus on improving the far undersized and outdated high school first and foremost. Property values (in turn tax income) will start to decrease if the schools are not brought up to date. It is inexcusable that this has needed to be addressed 10 years ago and has yet to be started. Obviously the storm water needs to be addressed as we have seen over the last 5 years but we also need to keep up the roads and traffic control. The longer we wait to address the many issues of our government buildings the more expensive it is going to be. Get it in the budget, find ways to have developers offset some of these costs of growing in our little city.	No			Yes						
We have the highest tax rate of any neighboring municipality by an exponential amount. While I support the school system and education of our children, I DO NOT support higher taxes as a means to achieve this.	No									
We MUST build a new high school and do it sooner than later. I have lived in FCC for almost 10 years and I was sure it would be done before my children graduated from GM. I know this will NOT happen and my kids will more likely than not finish up in the old building, but I still support a tax increase to make this happen. It's scandalous to me that our fabulous teaching staff and administrators and hard-working kids must attend school in a DUMP! What they are able to do given how old and dysfunctional the bundling is, is nothing short of miraculous, but we should be ashamed that we ask our kids, teachers and administrators to do this.				Yes						
We need a new high school and library. City Hall also needs repairs. I think large construction		Yes		Yes						

projects should chip in, not taxpayers, for business needs.										
We need a sidewalk along Park Avenue between the end of the park, past Virginia Avenue to the townhouses. It is a short distance, but there is a lot of foot traffic because of the farmers market, the library and the park. There should also be a crosswalk across Park Avenue to Virginia Avenue.								Yes		
We need more efficient roads, or a more efficient method of public transportation. An increase of housing means that there will be an influx of more cars on the roads in the morning, which will turn what many consider a struggle into a daily nightmare. Through upgrading and offering benefits for using public transport, (specifically buses), it is possible to decrease the morning traffic that many currently consider a primary concern. Brief Recap: More people = more cars on road Better buses to trains = more people use trains to get to work in D.C. or surrounding areas. More people use trains = fewer people using cars Fewer people using cars = fewer people on roads Equilibrium achieved.							Yes	Yes		
We need speed bumps on Park Ave. Park Ave. has become an alternative to Rte 7. Speeds can be high, visibility is often poor, especially around The Spectrum, and I'm surprised that there have been no accidents in the area (there probably have been, but I'm not aware of them). Further, this is a critical pedestrian area with a school, church, parks, the library, etc., where many residents, especially children walk. We should do something about this before we have a serious problem.										
We need the turf replaced on the GMHS field. It is use by all the schools and the community....truly a benefit to all						Yes				
We need to address GMHS as a priority; this project has been talked about the entire (almost)				Yes						

19 years we've lived in FC. All three of our children will have been born and graduated from GMHS before any improvements have been made. Our family still support this as the top priority even though we will not directly benefit from it. Our city needs to take this on and move it forward. Our staff and students deserve better and our entire community will benefit.										
We need to continue to carve out a niche identity as a small town inside this amazing metro area. That means, aesthetically pleasing new builds (homes included), sidewalks, emphasis on beauty with all built here.		Yes						Yes		
We need to have a real plan on replacing the high school.				Yes						
We need to put more into our athletic fields, including a new turf surface. When the HS is upgraded, I strongly support adding a pool.						Yes				
We should be building the new high school right NOW while money is still cheap to borrow.				Yes						
We should reduce operating costs to allow for more CIP spending.									Yes	
What FC does not need is a massive new development at Broad and West, which would eliminate local businesses and make traffic worse.		No								
What is the tax increase rate?										
When we do take on projects, such as a new high school, i would support making it state of the art and include highest quality facilities such as auditorium, gym and swimming pool, rather than going cheap like i feel we did with MEH. The gym there was immediately too small and there is no auditorium. The city would benefit from having a pool facility and higher quality sports fields.				Yes		Yes				
While not specifically related to the City infrastructure needs, I am concerned about the huge increase in apartment/condo buildings with tiny apartments unsuitable for families, and with				No		Yes	Yes			

insufficient parking. This will bring large traffic problems, it will not add to the family/school pluses of living in Falls Church, and will complicate other capital infrastructure issues. Broad Street is already too narrow to handle the flow of traffic that goes through it regularly. But at the same time, I do not support the huge planned expenditures on the schools. The expansion for Mt Daniel is simply over the top in the size and provision of excess facilities for students. The same thing is likely to happen for the High School. Mary Ellen Henderson MS was done reasonably well. The work being done on some of the parks is impressive and will have long term benefits for the city.										
Why can't the city if falls church have a pool that is open to falls church residents only or for a large fee for out of city residents. Taxes would pay for some, but citizens who wish to use facilities would pay an annual fee. I'm tired of spending money on bike share or lanes. We've already wasted \$16,000 last fiscal year.						Yes				
WiFi for community center so residents can use it in case of power failure.										
With much greater density already happening and expected in the future, and with an obesity epidemic underway in America, and a more competitive global economy, our focus should be preserving and enhancing park space and field space and gym space, and on creating academic environments that produce highly competitive students. No citizen land should be sold or put under long-term lease as such land will be needed for parks and/or an attractive school environment. We can no longer depend on Fairfax county to continue to provide field space (soccer, baseball) and gym space to all of our programs as they will have their own issues with increased density.						Yes				

With the increasing density due to the major new residential and commercial developments, more needs to be done about traffic flow. Broad St is becoming more and more difficult to use.								Yes		
Without city government, there will be no schools. City Hall needs updating. Perhaps the schools can do without ipads before they cry for budget increases.				No	Yes					
Without sidewalks, businesses that keep money in Falls Church will never move here. Without sidewalks, we're just a pass through and there's no reason for people to stay or spend money in the city limits.								Yes		
Working to enhance the downtown business district is the only item on the list that will have a direct return of money into the city coffers (in tax dollars and development potential/timeline) in the short term, and thus should be the number one priority. Also, it would increase morale for the city businesses and residents by making the heart of the city look better. Stormwater really shouldn't be a part of this discussion, should it? The city already has a special "Tax" or fee dedicated to stormwater that was enacted recently. Regarding parks, Maintaining parks should be the focus before adding any parks or redeveloping any.		Yes				Yes				
Would love to be a truly "walkable city" with an active street scene. Let's invest in the downtown business district and other locations to make that happen.		Yes						Yes		
Would love to see two shuttle buses running back and forth between East Falls Church Metro and West Falls Church Metro stations. Not like the George Bus, which ran all over town and had weird pricing and scheduling. I would prefer shuttles which run back and forth, mostly along Broad St., with the chief goal being that one is never more than a 15 minute ride from a Metro station. From EFC, the route might go down Sycamore/Roosevelt to Seven Corners, then right and down Broad to Haycock and WFC station. From WFC, maybe go down Haycock to Broad,							Yes			

then right onto Annandale and Maple then back up 29 to Sycamore and EFC. Would make it easy to visit FC businesses and make it easier to get to Metro since parking there is a problem and will not get better. Would also increase walking, which is good for myriad reasons (healthier people, safer neighborhoods, more walkable area for older residents, etc.). One wonders if grants might be available to, for example, test alternative fuels for buses on such a small circuit. In addition to any federal grants (hopefully), might pay with a business tax and small fare (or could make free a la the Alexandria trolley, I reckon). Should also be able to get Metro to pitch in some share since it would increase riders there.										
You guys just decided to issue new bonds to expand schools based on short-term needs. Do you realize that there are several million fewer children in the cohort born since 2008?				Yes						
You need to stop buidling apartments that will allow families to live here, use the schools but not pay the same taxes as the home owners who are being strangled by the high taxes. The school system that use to be attractive could be the death of Falls Church. We can't keep expanding the schools based on residential taxes, because what you create is a virtual community for the wealthy. If they want their private little school then they can send their children to private schools. What I suggest that families are taxed per student over and beyond a general income tax. I don't mind paying for public schools but on our block we have families with 5 to 6 children (these are not poor people, but rather well off folks), attending the schools for the same tax rate we are paying, families should be paid an extra tax for each school age child.	No	No		No						
[MANUALLY ENTERED AS WRITTEN, ASIDE FROM BRACKETED COMMENTS & CLARIFICATION] This city already has enviable infrastructure. We just received a major capital inflow from the sale of the water system. We are also constantly being told that we need the	No									

major development projects that have been permitted to avoid further tax increases on top of those (plus fee increases) residents have shouldered in recent years. The city taxpayers *very skeptical* [UNDERLINED] of any assertion that the city needs another tax increase to find (a) major capital improvement project(s). Especially given the city's record of inaccurate budgeting.										
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